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THURSDAY, MAY 26TH, 2011

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**THURSDAY, MAY 26TH, 2011**

## Local councillor's 'outrage' over Welsh school name snub

**CONFUSION reigns over why a child's competition-winning name for a new school in Barry - 'Ysgol Gymraeg Gwynfor' - has not been accepted by the Vale Council.**

The local authority says its cabinet simply chose from a list of proposed names produced by local youngsters, but a councillor claims there was a competition-winning name that has been ignored.

According to Coun Steffan Wiliam, the winning name was submitted by four pupils in honour of Gwynfor Evans, a renowned Welshman, who was born in the town of Barry.

Coun Wiliam claims that following a request from the local authority earlier in the year to choose a name, the governing body of St Baruc, who are responsible for the new school, voted unanimously to back 'Ysgol Gymraeg Gwynfor' as the winning entry from a shortlist chosen by the children competing from the three local Welsh medium primary schools.

Coun Wiliam, who represents the Baruc ward on the Vale Council, said there was "outrage" that the council had blocked the name.

He explained: "The reasons for naming the school after Gwynfor Evans are numerous.

"He was from Barry and the son of Dan Evans, which was until recently a major employer in the town.

"Gwynfor was a pacifist, a Christian, a prominent Welshman and a world-famous politician.

**by TIM CHAPMAN**

"He was an important figure in the development of the history of Wales in the 20th Century and came fourth when the National Assembly sponsored an independent survey of 100 Welsh heroes."

Coun Wiliam pointed out: "Next year marks the centenary of Gwynfor's birth and to coincide with that, the National Eisteddfod will be coming to the Vale. Naming the school after Gwynfor was a wonderful gesture and a fabulous idea by the children."

He continued "What sort of message does this send to our children, when we are meant to be empowering them and building their confidence?"

Coun Wiliam claimed the authority had failed to give a reason why it had refused to accept the name and why it has kept changing its mind over other names instead - plumping first for a translation of 'Greenbanks' and then later for Nant Talwg.

Coun Wiliam added: "It states clearly in the Assembly guidance that a school can name itself and that the local authority merely approves it later.

"For the authority to interfere in such a way goes against the spirit of giving schools more autonomy - and also ignores the pupils' voice."

Coun Wiliam said the Vale Leader and members of the council cabinet had attended the unveiling of the bust of Gwynfor Evans at Barry Library 18 months ago, so it begged the question as to why they should be unhappy to

be associated with one of Barry's most famous statesmen.

Coun Wiliam appealed to the cabinet to accept the children's original winning entry *Ysgol Gymraeg Gwynfor*.

A Vale Council spokeswoman said youngsters were asked to propose a number of names.

"Pupils at Ysgol Sant Baruc were asked to suggest names for the new Welsh medium seed school in Barry.

"From the list of seven excellent suggestions, the council's cabinet chose *Ysgol Gymraeg Nant Talwg* - named for the local Talwg stream, 'nant' meaning stream in Welsh."

The spokeswoman added: "The council does not consider it appropriate to name a school after any political figure.

"Schools are and must continue to be seen to be politically neutral, and accessible to parents from all communities, backgrounds and political persuasions.

"The council has recognised the contribution of Gwynfor Evans to Welsh culture in accepting a bust in his memory at Barry County Library.

"We have demonstrated our commitment to promoting the Welsh language by our investment in developing these seed schools and by inviting the National Eisteddfod to the Vale of Glamorgan in 2012.

"The approach taken is consistent with the previous practice for naming schools in the Vale and ensures that schools have a clear identity within their local communities."



*Barry firefighters and the town's ladies' hockey team combined to raise money for a number of good causes - to find out which ones, please turn to page 4.*

**CHARITY CAR WASH TODAY**  
BARRY FIRE STATION

## House builder's charm offensive receives a rather mixed response

**A leaflet has been distributed in part of Barry arguing the case for a major housing development of 177 homes.**

**by TIM CHAPMAN**

makes good and efficient use of what is available...

"At 29.5 units to the hectare, we are at the bottom end of the density scale. Most new sites come in at 35-45 to the hectare.

*(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)*

On Thursday, May 19, Vale councillors met to discuss White Farm's suitability for development, agreeing to a site visit before their June meeting.

The White Farm development has been an ongoing controversy in the town for a number of years, with people expressing fears of further flooding problems and excessive levels of traffic.

The leaflet is an attempt by the house builder Persimmon Homes (East Wales) to allay some of those fears.

In it, Steve Williams, the managing director, says he realises White Farm is a "sensitive issue" in the town, and addresses three main points: *Why 177 houses are planned instead of the 130 proposed in the UDP; the impact of more traffic; and whether the development will increase flooding.*

He says: "The figure of 130 new homes indicated in the UDP was an indicative figure. It was not meant to be an absolute maximum.

"The amount of developable land for housing in Wales is very limited... We believe the current number

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## Public holiday unnecessary?

**W**ITH reference to the call for a public holiday on St David's Day, I am all in favour of celebrating this worthy anniversary, but I feel that children going to school dressed in their national costume, and taking part in traditional games for half a day, is far more beneficial for them.

To have a national holiday is unnecessary, taking into account the many other holidays that take place during the year. Lesley Jeffery, Dinas Powys

## Thank you, Basil!

**W**ITH reference to your excellent tribute in last week's GEM to Mr Basil Watkins and his involvement with the 'Best Kept Village competition', we are sure there are many parishioners throughout the Vale who, like ourselves, would like to wish Basil a long and happy retirement.

There is no doubt that Basil's infectious enthusiasm and his ability to encourage others to participate in preserving ancient traditions, whilst at the same time helping to improve the physical appearance of many villages throughout the Vale, was paramount to its success.

We were delighted to see in your article the

photographs featuring Church Row, Pendoylan and are pleased to confirm that local residents Lil and Cecil Matthews, along with others, are still very much involved in keeping this part of our village looking attractive to those who visit.

We sincerely hope that the organising committee of the 'BKV' competition can find someone with the dedication to foster community spirit in the villages throughout the Vale and that the D C Jones Challenge Cup, which has been the centrepiece of this competition, will continue to attract the support of communities throughout the Vale.

Lynn and Tony McCarthy, Tre-Dodridge.

## 'Town should pay a tribute'

**M**AY I offer warmest congratulations to those good people who organised the highly successful literary festival in Cowbridge last week and may we hope that it is a first step toward a permanent fixture in the town's calendar.

Recent developments have enhanced Cowbridge as a creative venue for many worthwhile ideas – the Physic Garden, the food festival, the farmers' market, church lighting and the reindeer parade for children, to name but a few, soon to be followed by completion of the

restoration of the town walls and improvements to Old Hall gardens.

In these difficult economic times it is encouraging to find that people are prepared to give creatively of their time and energy to bring about such a raft of improvements, stimulated by the Physic Garden Trust, the Charter Trust and the Chamber of Trade.

Perhaps collectively there should be an annual celebration of these people who do so much to keep Cowbridge special – so come on, town council, think of a suitable tribute because Cowbridge today is vastly improved on its former self.

Lyn Richards, Cowbridge

*If you have a view on issues raised here, contact us at the address given at foot of page.*

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## THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

## Readers' Letters

*We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail. Letters and emails MUST include full address and a contact telephone number. An email address alone is not sufficient. We will (in certain circumstances), protect a writer's identity, if requested. Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL.*

## ACCIDENTS MAINLY DOWN TO DRIVERS...

## Council replies to safety fears on Docks link road

**I** WISH to respond to the letter featured in last week's edition of your paper, concerning the recent introduction of 'vehicle activated signs' on the Barry Docks link road.

Could I firstly reassure readers that the council is very aware of the number of fatal and serious collisions that have occurred over the years on the Barry Docks Link Road.

The council has initiated numerous actions over a long period to improve the safety of this route, including the following:

- Introduction in 2003 of a 'Prohibition of U-turn Order' for north-bound traffic joining the Barry Docks Link Road at the Coldbrook Road East junction;

- Junction and accident analysis by an independent consultant in 2005 which recommended a number of short, medium and long term measures. The short and medium term measures were implemented between 2005 and 2007 at a cost of

£108k and included improved signage, road markings and surfacing and the introduction of a merge lane;

- The reduction in 2005 of the speed limit on the route from the national speed limit (60mph for this class of road) to 50mph;

- High-mast camera surveillance in July 2006 confirming the high number of illegal u-turn manoeuvres;

- Improvements to the alignment of the merge lane, road markings and coloured surfacing in 2009;

- Speed surveys undertaken by the Safety Camera Partnership in 2010 to determine whether the site met the criteria for either a permanent safety camera, or the location for a mobile camera. Neither criterion was met;

- Speed surveys undertaken by the Council in 2010 which confirmed the findings of the Safety Camera Partnership that speed was not a significant concern at this location;

- Detailed study by an independent consultant in 2010 of possible traffic signal and roundabout options as a long

term solution;

- Further study by an independent consultant in 2011 to identify the favoured solution with cost estimate for a future capital bid to the Welsh Government or the South East Wales Transport Alliance in due course.

- Introduction in 2011 of vehicle activated signs advising drivers of their speed and of their approach to a staggered junction at a cost of £32k.

It should be noted that, from the various investigations undertaken by the council into the collisions on this road, the causation factors have mainly been related to inappropriate driver behaviour, in particular illegal U-turns, rather than speed.

It is however accepted that a general reduction in vehicle speeds along this route, particularly in the vicinity of the Argae Lane and Coldbrook Road East junctions, could reduce future accident risk, hence the new 'vehicle activated signage', which has been introduced as a speed deterrent in the interim.

On March 16, the

council's cabinet resolved that the traffic signal option, as determined by the independent consultant, be supported as the most appropriate long term scheme to take forward and that an application for funding be made to undertake the detailed design and construction phases of the scheme.

The cost estimate of the traffic signal option is currently £500k – but this does not include possible service diversion costs and other unknowns, which will need further investigation during the detailed design process. Applications for this funding will be made this year. If successful, the continued requirement for the 'vehicle activated' signage will be considered on completion of the traffic signal scheme.

It is possible that this signage could be adapted for installation at other highway locations within the Vale, if it is not considered necessary in the future.

Miles Punter, (Head of Visible Services, Vale of Glamorgan Council).

## Barnardo's says 'THANK YOU'

**O**N behalf of Barnardo's Cymru I would like to congratulate all the people who took part in On Your Bike for Barnardo's Cycle Ride.

It was an exhilarating day along the roads of the Vale of Glamorgan and everyone was in good spirits. This is the 30th year that the bike ride has taken place and it is now firmly in the events calendar for cyclists in south Wales.

A big thank you to all of you, and our sponsors and partners and volunteers who helped make the day a success, and thank you for raising an incredible amount of money to transform children's lives. Rachel Madge (Event organiser, Barnardo's Cymru)

## Good Samaritans

**M**AY I, through The GEM, offer my heartfelt thanks to the lady who was driving behind me up the High Street in Cowbridge on Sunday morning (and also to the gentleman who joined her) when I fell off my bicycle.

Their concern and practical help – the lady willingly donated

a beautiful handkerchief to stem my wounds – was greatly appreciated.

I would like these kind Samaritans to know that I am recovering well.

I am just so glad I was wearing a cycle helmet – had I not, the story might have had a different ending! Alun Armstrong, Cowbridge

## 'Dogs' mess is everyone's problem...

**I** REFER to the reader's letter entitled 'Dog mess is dangerous' published on May 5 in the letters page of The Glamorgan GEM.

While I fully share the concerns raised over the anti-social and health impact that results from the crime of dog walkers failing to clean up after their animals, it's very difficult to catch those guilty of the offence without the resources to monitor every street and open space throughout the Vale of Glamorgan.

Thankfully, surveys by Keep Wales Tidy show that dog fouling is a reducing problem in the Vale.

This shows that even with the limited resources available to us we are doing something right; whether fining dog walkers for committing the crime, or educating our residents and visitors on the subject.

Obviously, more needs to be done to eliminate the concerns of your reader – but this is a matter for all of us – as they say: 'if you tolerate this, then your children

will be next'.

Our enforcement staff will continue to do everything they can to educate dog walkers on cleaning up their dog's mess and disposing of it legally, and will prosecute them where they do not act socially and legally in looking after their dogs.

To assist them, I would ask any resident who has witnessed this crime to contact our enforcement officers by calling 01446 700111.

All information will be treated in the strictest confidence, but will allow our officers to target areas of significant dog fouling.

Unfortunately, this offence is one that will only be eliminated if we all stand up and say that it is unacceptable.

It is not somebody else's problem, it is ours, and we will not allow it to happen.

Clifford Parish, (Operational Manager Waste Management and Cleansing (Rheolwr Gwaith Rheoli Gwastraff a Glanlau).

## It's not only dogs who leave a mess!

**W**HILE out walking my dog with a friend early one Saturday evening recently, we entered the Buttrills playing field, Barry, only to find guess what? – No dog mess but empty cans, bottles and blood-stained bandages.

We assume this mess was left behind by grown men playing their football matches early that afternoon.

People of Barry are quick to complain about dog mess left behind

and not picked up by irresponsible dog owners, but what about this mess?

I would like to point out that I am one of the responsible dog owners who pick up after their pets.

My friend and I were disgusted to see this mess left behind by footballers.

We would like to say – come on you football lads of Barry – think of other people who also use this field and take your empty cans and bottles home with you. (Name and address supplied)

## HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JUNE 2)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time	Ht	Time	Ht
	AM	M	PM	M
26 Thur	02.34	7.6	15.11	7.5
27 Fri	03.48	7.7	16.24	7.7
28 Sat	04.52	7.8	17.22	8.0
29 Sun	05.43	8.1	18.11	8.2
30 Mon	06.31	8.4	18.49	8.5
31 Tues	07.11	8.6	19.26	8.8
01 Wed	07.51	8.9	20.11	9.1
02 Thur	08.29	9.2	20.39	9.3

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.



# 'True gent' Tony to be remembered by friends at Marie Curie match

A charity football match is taking place in Barry this weekend, in memory of popular local businessman Tony Brown.

The match and family fun day will take place at Jenner Park on Sunday (May 29) kick off 12.15pm, and funds raised will go to Marie Curie, Penarth.

Damien Williams, who is organising the event, told THE GEM: "Tony sadly passed away on 19 September last year. He was just 43 years old when he died from cancer."

"We're having a charity football match, family fun day, and karaoke and curry night

in memory of him.

"Tony was a local business man, who as a youth was a Welsh amateur boxing champ."

"He also played football for local teams including the Bassett Loungers and the Witchell."

"His great sense of humour and his loyalty to his friends and family are sadly missed. If you could sum up Tony in a few words - 'a true gentleman' says it all."

"Past members of the Bassett football team for whom Tony played will be turning out against a 'Rest of Barry Eleven' who all knew Tony well."

"The match kicks off at 12.15pm, and everyone is welcome to come

**RIGHT:**  
Tony Brown was a well-known character on the Barry sporting scene.



along and help us remember our good friend."

"Later in the afternoon, there will be a fun day at the Taddross Hotel, which was formerly the Bassett Arms."

"All families are welcome. There will be a bouncy castle, a barbecue and sweets for the children."

Damien added: "There will be a raffle drawn at 6pm followed by a curry night and karaoke. All the money raised through the raffle or donations will be given to Marie Curie Hospice in Penarth."

# SCHOOL'S SCIENTISTS TAKE CHEMISTRY PRIZE

**BARRY**  
Comprehensive School's year-7 scientists took first prize in the Salter's Festival of Chemistry on May 4 at Cardiff University.

The four boys representing the school, Michael Bonney, Lewis Gibson, Jared Hall and Lewis Downey, took part in a series of competitive practical



experiments.

The boys took first prize in the 'University Challenge' practical investigation, where

they competed against pupils from 15 other schools. Well done, boys!

AC

Michael, Lewis, Jared and Lewis at the Salter's Festival of Chemistry at Cardiff University.

# Grant put aside for school's art block

**AN ASSEMBLY** grant of £625,000 has been split between two comprehensive schools - Barry and Llantwit Major.

Barry Comprehensive School will receive £325,499, which will be transferred to the School Investment Strategy Reserve and go towards the replacement of the school's art block.

Llantwit Major Comprehensive School will receive £300,000 to provide demountable accommodation to replace the school's resource centre.

The news was released in a report to the Vale Council cabinet which said: "The Barry Comprehensive School Art Block is a two-storey demountable building which is badly deteriorated and nearing 25 years old."

"A provisional estimate for replacing the building is at least £1.5million. However, the scheme was not included in the capital programme as further work is required on the options, both to resolve the problem and identify sources of funding."

A further report will be presented to Cabinet on the funding of this project before any decision is made to proceed.

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Sabzi Biryani (V) .....£4.95

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Subzi Masala (N) (V) .....£4.50  
Paneer Pasanda (N) (V) .....£4.50  
Subzi Paneer Jalfrezi (V) .....£4.50  
Mattar Paneer (V) .....£4.50

## SIDE DISHES

Palak Paneer .....£2.30  
Aloo Gobi .....£2.20  
Aloo Palak .....£2.20  
Palak Bhaji .....£2.20  
Aloo Baingan .....£2.20  
Mushroom Bhaji .....£2.20  
Bhendi Bhaji .....£2.20  
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# Jodie's Miss Wales goal is to help Joshua Foundation

A BARRY woman is to compete in the Miss Wales final – for the second year in a row.

The Miss Wales event seeks to raise money for one of south Wales' most popular children's charities, The Joshua Foundation, which supports youngsters with terminal cancer.

Jodie Hopkin, aged 22, who works at Atlantic College, St Donats, said: "This year, Miss Wales is a three-day event.

"On Thursday, June 30, I will be doing an 'empowerment day' where I and the rest of the candidates have to do a firewalk.

"The next day we have rehearsals and a Miss Wales and Mister Wales charity ball.

"Then it is the climax of the three days on Saturday, July 2, with further rehearsals and the grand final.

"There are four rounds in the final. First, I have to be interviewed by the judges, then I will have to wear a mini dress on the catwalk with a Welsh flag on it; then I have to wear a glitzy party dress, something fun and sparkly; in the last round I have to wear a full-length dress with the wow factor.

"Last year, I raised £1,000 for The Joshua Foundation and this year I am busy trying to raise even more."

The voting lines are now open so people can vote for Jodie by texting 'Jodie Hopkin' to 81118 or phoning 0901 293 7937-75. All phone



Jodie Hopkin hopes to raise even more for The Joshua Foundation this year than last year.

votes cost £1.02 and all text votes cost £1 plus standard network charge.

Voters must be 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. Lines close at noon on July 1.

## Club visited by Vale MP

THE Vale of Glamorgan Table Tennis Academy recently invited Alun Cairns MP to get involved and join the members for a practice session.

The club uses the Cwm Talwg Community Hall on the western side of Barry.

The founder member of the academy, George Evans, asked the local MP to join in the fun with other members in a regular training session on Wednesday evenings.

The club, which welcomes players of all ages and abilities, also aims to develop international standard players.

The academy is a not for profit organisation, funded through grants and membership subscriptions.

It is run by George Evans, who has a wealth of experience as both player and coach, to pass on to players. He is assisted by Paul McCafferty, who is a very experienced player.

Talented members of the academy currently have the opportunity to play in the South Wales Conference League on Sunday evenings, a league organised by Neil Wright, an international player.

Mr Evans said: "Next season, we intend to enter teams in other leagues and tournaments."

The Vale of Glamorgan Table Tennis Academy currently trains every Wednesday evening from 6pm – 9pm at Cwm Talwg Community Hall.

For further details, contact George Evans: email tanglewood-five@aol.com or on 01446/711297.

# 'BEWARE THE SPIN' say opponents of White Farm development plan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Building 177 plots will make more efficient use of the land available..."

Mr Williams accepts there will be an increase in traffic on the local road network, but emphasises that "the increase will be relatively small, having been calculated at just seven per cent", and adds that the impact will be helped by road improvements in the Colcot area in the future.

Mr Williams states emphatically that Persimmon believes its development will not increase the risk of flooding.

"In fact, with careful design, the development of the site for housing will provide an opportunity to reduce the potential for down-stream flooding in the Colbrook catchment.

"Currently, the rain water runs off the surrounding land and into the brook.

"We plan to create a 'flood attenuation area' within the open space which in times of heavy rainfall will capture rainwater flowing off the new housing site, the public open space and the upper part of Colbrook.

"For most of the year this will be a dry, grassy basin, but when heavy rainfall does occur, the water will be held in the basin, until flows subside, and then gradually released back into the Colbrook, thus relieving pressure on the downstream catchment and reducing the risk of flooding."

## ENGAGEMENT

Distribution of the leaflet was greeted with a mixed response by people with an interest in what the council finally decide to do at White Farm.

Part of White Farm is in the ward of local town councillor Keith Lewis, who along with The Pastures Neighbourhood Watch

group, set up the Anti-White Farm Development Group nine years ago.

Coun Lewis said it was fantastic that the developer had spent time trying to put its case to local people, but he wasn't convinced by some of the 'facts'.

He explained: "The leaflet says the 130 homes in the UDP was an 'indicative' figure, but it wasn't.

"The planning inspector at the inquiry laid down 130 new homes at 25 per hectare."

Coun Lewis insisted: "The seven per cent figure for extra traffic is ridiculous. With 177 homes there could be up to 340 more cars in the area. Where will they all go? The roads in the Colcot area will become over-burdened."

He said that while he welcomed the leaflet's attempt to inform the public, he would also like to see Persimmon explaining its policy over the open space too.

Dennis Harkus of FocusBARRY said he too appreciated the fact that the house-builder had taken time to engage with the local community.

"Persimmon deserves some credit for producing a leaflet to inform people. It's a refreshing change for a developer to seek to allay concerns in the community.

"The leaflet states that the council's development plan – the policy document used to determine planning applications – is 'indicative' and that the 130 homes identified in that plan 'was not meant to be an absolute maximum'.

"The proposal for 177 dwellings is 36 per cent higher than the number in the development plan and from the recommendation of the planning inspector.

"In my objections to the scheme, I have consistently made the point that local people should have been genuinely consulted on the substantial ground works to the open space.

## SPIN

Town councillor Claire Curtis, who represents the Dyfan ward on the town council, said the leaflet did cover most of the issues raised, but that she still had reservations and hoped residents would not be fooled by 'spin'.

She said: "Firstly, I am not sure how well they have studied the area when they refer to Colcot Road as Colcott Road!

"They say that

according to their measuring of traffic flows in the local road network, the additional traffic caused by the housing development would have little impact – only a seven per cent increase.

"But exactly how thorough was their survey of the area if they cannot even spell the name of the main road that would serve this development?"

"A seven per cent increase of the high traffic volumes in the area is quite a lot of extra vehicles on Colcot Road, and the roads that feed off it.

"Persimmon has not mentioned the noise and pollution that will be caused by the construction vehicles that will be going in and out of the site while the building work is going on.

"Persimmon Homes refer to the UDP in the leaflet and the decision to allocate the site for housing and recreation, and that a public enquiry was held at the time.

"They will hopefully recall that public opinion was totally against building on this land, but they don't seem to have included this in their leaflet.

"The UDP indicated that 130 new houses should be built on White Farm, but Persimmon has applied to build 177 plots on the land and tried to justify their greed with more efficient use of the land. How gullible do they think we are?"

Coun Curtis said she had a direct experience of flooding which made her wary of development in the area.

"The leaflet also addresses the concern of

flooding in the area and states that they believe the careful design of the site will reduce potential flooding.

"As someone who has experienced flooding first hand, words like 'we believe it won't' are not good enough for me.

"I was flooded because the heavy rain poured over the concreted roads of the Colcot and ran downhill through my house.

"At the present time, White Farm has green fields that absorb the rainfall. With 177 houses on the land, all with tarmac roads and driveways, the water will just run downhill towards the ancient Merthyr Dyfan church or maybe Lundy Park.

"A 'flood attenuation area' sounds very efficient, but can Persimmon guarantee it will work?"

Coun Curtis said: "Finally, we are tempted by Persimmon Homes with the promise of a contribution of £395,000 towards the provision of open space to include bridges and footpaths.

"Although this sounds appealing, I for one would forsake paths and bridges to keep White Farm green."

Vale councillor Rob Curtis, has called on residents to join him in lobbying planning councillors at 5.30pm on June 23, when they next discuss the development.

He said: "Despite the slick brochures being sent out by the building company, residents are still as determined as ever to save as much of this green field site as possible for future generations."

## Barry Mad Hatters' Ball raises vital funds for overseas projects



ABOVE: Foundation director Lucy Dickenson and Hannah Fitt with Jane Hutt at the fundraising Ball in their 'mad hats'!

THE Barry-based SAFE Foundation, which supports projects in India, Africa and Cambodia, was featured at a Mad Hatters' Fundraising Ball last Saturday, raising more than £1,200 in the auction and raffle alone.

Jane Hutt AM joined the Ball as part of the Vale4Africa Table, to show the support and links between the SAFE Foundation and the project in Eastern Uganda, which is supported by Vale4Africa and SAFE.

## Josh's wheelie good effort!



A PUPIL from Ashgrove School has been awarded a certificate for collecting more than 41,300 Christmas cards for recycling.

Josh Hurley (above) collected used cards from pupils, parents and staff, and even found time to walk the streets of Cowbridge with a wheelie bin collecting from the local residents!

Josh has been organising the recycling of cards in the school for several years and this was undoubtedly his biggest collection yet.

A school spokeswoman said: "He would like to thank everyone for donating cards and helping him to receive this award, and looks forward to attempting to break his record next year."

## Village residents to meet

A MEETING is being held today, Thursday May 26, to formalise the Pencoedre Village Action Group.

It will take place at St Richard Gwyn School in Barry at 6pm, and the Vale Council for Voluntary Services will also attend the meeting to help provide guidance on how to formalise the residents' association. For more information, please call 01446 403814.

## Firefighters' car wash for Atlantic challenge

BARRY firefighters teamed up with the town's ladies hockey team on May 21 to raise £600 in a charity car wash which will help a number of charities, including Help for Heroes.

Sian Haskell of the hockey team told The GEM: "The local support we received was fantastic, with a steady flow of cars, vans and campers keeping everyone busy throughout the day!"

"John Haskell is a firefighter and he and his colleagues were keen

to support an Atlantic Rowing attempt in December which is for Help For Heroes, but also Breast Cancer Care and the Fire Fighters' charity.

"The Barry Ladies Hockey team would like to thank everyone who came along to support them on the day and also Red Watch, Barry, for their hard work!"

A spokesman for the firefighters added: "John and Jamie and Team Atlantic Dash, would like to thank Barry Ladies hockey team for their support in putting on the car wash."

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# Councillors will make site visit to 'supermarket location' in town

RESIDENTS in the Park Crescent area of Barry who are opposed to a supermarket giant moving into the former Torque Tools premises, will have to wait for councillors to make a site visit before finding out whether it will get the go-ahead or not.

More than 3,000 people have put their names to a petition against Sainsburys opening a branch.

Sainsburys argue that it is bringing jobs and investment to the town, and has already secured an alcohol licence.

Detractors argue that plans for a store with a car park in front of it on such a busy thoroughfare are not in the interests of road safety.

## Report by TIM CHAPMAN

It appears likely that planning councillors will examine the issue on June 23.

Coun Janice Charles, who has led opposition to the store, explained: "Sainsburys is very welcome to come to the town, but this is one of the most dangerous spots they could have picked."

"There are more suitable locations than on such a busy road and opposite a primary school with 650 pupils."

"My guess is that the planning councillors will go for a site visit on the day of their meeting, and I think it will be particularly helpful for councillors who do not live in the town to look at the location."

"Although Sainsburys

says it is bringing investment to the town, there are businesses that will be unaffected but those that will be damaged too.

"Small businesses are the lifeblood of this country, and the ones in Park Crescent ensure that the money stays in the town."

Two weeks ago, the Vale's Assembly Member, Jane Hutt, met local parents who were concerned over safety at a crossing just yards from the proposed site for the store.

She told THE GEM this week: "Following my meeting with concerned parents at the busy Romilly School crossing, where a child was recently injured in a traffic accident, I called on the council to reinstate a school crossing patrol and reject the Sainsbury application for Park Crescent on safety grounds."

"I was pleased to hear that the Vale planning committee has now deferred approval of the Sainsburys planning application, pending a site visit."

"I hope this visit will show the serious dangers at this busy crossing."

## Forum role

INDEPENDENT councillor Richard Bertin, who represents Court ward on the Vale of Glamorgan Council, has been appointed as the new chair of Gibbonsdown & Court Youth Partnership forum.

# Will adiZone appear on Paget Road?

AN open air gym which looked set for a particular location on Barry Island appears to be hanging in the balance.

The gym, dubbed an 'adiZone', was earmarked for the vacant area of ground on Paget Road opposite the snooker hall.

Last week, Vale councillors agreed to make a visit to assess the site before making a decision on what would happen.

The police had informed councillors that they had reservations about the location on Paget Road, pointing out that it was below street level; not covered by CCTV cameras; not visible to adjacent buildings, and near late night drinking establishments.

Commenting on the proposal, the police said: "South Wales Police fully support providing this type of facility to the community but wish to object to it being located in this particular location."

"It is felt that by allowing the adiZone to be located at this location could add to the crime and disorder problems already identified in this area."

A traders' meeting on Tuesday afternoon backed the police objections. Local businessman Brian Osborne, the landowner adjacent to the 'adiZone location' wrote to the planning department, making the point: "As this venture is non-supervised and has no CCTV coverage, it will attract anti-social behaviour, and encourage under age drinking in a non-alcohol zone, whilst also discouraging families from visiting Barry island."

"Unsupervised young people gathering in locations where they cannot be seen will encourage unhelpful behaviour leading to possible vandalism and unsafe practices."

"This type of facility should be out in the open where it is in full view, and the youngsters themselves will be able to see other people."

Mr Osborne told THE GEM this week: "I have always felt it is the wrong location. We are trying to make the Island family friendly, but do not want a congregating area there. I am preparing a dossier to present to the Vale Council and the Town Council."

Earlier this year, the traders voted 14 for and 2 against the adiZone – the two being me and my wife! – but at the latest meeting traders backed the police concerns – 7 against and 5 or 6 for.

"At the original meeting we were not in possession of the full facts, but I gave out the police letters to the other traders."

"It would be a good facility to have as long as it is in the right location."

There are more than 40 adiZones currently across the country.

Phil Beaman of the Vale Council explained: "Planning committee members will be undertaking a visit to the site. Any issues that have been raised during the planning process will be considered prior to making a decision on the application."

# School's message on Goodwill Day!



MAY 18 was Message of Goodwill Day and pupils at Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Curig celebrated with the two year-1 classes giving the school (and their parents) a wonderful assembly.

The theme of the service was based around our planet and the need to look after it by reducing, reusing and recycling.

The children dressed up as children from different countries but all with the same message, that we need to work together to safeguard our future.

Will Humphreys, a pupil from year-1, said: "It's really important that we look after our planet as it's the only one that we have!"

Our thanks go to teachers Mrs Burns and Miss Williams for a wonderful service.

The school recently achieved the silver award for being an Eco School and is well on its way to winning the Eco Flag.

Fe gyflwynodd disgynion blwyddyn 1 wasanaeth hyfryd ar Ddydd Ewyllys Da yr wythnos ddiwethaf. Neges y gwasanaeth oedd i ofalu am ein planed.

Dangosodd plant blwyddyn 1 i'r athrawon, disgynion, rhieni

a'r llywodraethwyr bwysigrwydd lleihau ein gwastraff, ail-ddefnyddio ac ailgylchu i sicrhau dyfodol ein byd.

Pwysleisiodd Wil Humphreys, disgyn o blwyddyn 1 ei "bod hi'n bwysig iawn i ofalu am ein planed oherwydd dyma'r unig un sydd gennym."

Ar nodyn tebyg, fe lwyddodd yr ysgol i gyrraedd gwobr 'arian' mewn Eco-ysgolion yr wythnos ddiwethaf.

Gobeithwn y bydd y Faner Werdd yn dilyn yn reit fuan!

RJ

## Fate of plastic tops?

IN the village of Sully where I live, many people collect plastic milk bottle tops.

I am curious and interested to know where they end up. Can anyone tell me?

Douglas Roberts

## BARRIVALE BRIDGE CLUB NEWS

LATEST results from Barrivale Bridge Club are as follows:

Tuesday, May 24

The winners were Alan Jones and Lyn Matthews with 64.58 per cent, and in second were Betty Lewis and Noelle Bond (63.75).

In third were Dave Thomas and Tom Kendrick (52.5). Alan and Lyn also won on handicap

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. For more information, telephone 01446 733425.

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# VALE RESORT RETAINS TOP WALES AWARD

**THE Vale Resort at Hensol has been awarded maximum points in an AA review – for the second year in a row.**

The resort's rating remains at 85 per cent – the highest possible for a four-star hotel, against the average score of 76.7 per cent for four-star hotels.

The report describes the inspection at the £50million resort as "very positive" and highlights the strengths of the hotel as "clearly in service and hospitality received from a dedicated team", both of which were assessed as being of five-star standard.

Stephen Leeke, Managing Director of the Vale Resort, said: "We are all delighted with this latest industry accolade. To have retained the highest possible rating is an extremely proud moment for us once again. Our vision is to be recognised as one of the finest resorts and members' clubs in

Europe, providing an excellent level of service, quality dining and helpful and professional staff – and, through doing that, ensuring that everyone who stays here, be it on business or leisure, has a fantastic experience."

The Resort's Vale Grill retains its AA Rosette under the guidance of Head Chef Daniel James. Of the food, the report stated that the "food offer was very good with consistency throughout the courses. Dinner was the highlight."

The Resort is home to a £4 million WRU National Centre of Excellence training facilities for the Welsh rugby team and also boasts training facilities for the Cardiff Blues, Cardiff City FC and the Welsh FA.

Celebrity guests to the Vale Resort include the Manchester United team, Matthew Rhys, Catherine Zeta Jones, Charlotte Church, Jamie Oliver, Westlife, Gerard Houllier and Arsene Wenger.



Stephen Leeke, managing director of The Vale Resort with Andrew Rees, hotel operations manager.

## Barry lecturers set for Ty Hafan cycle ride

**THREE lecturers from Barry College are preparing to embark on a cycle ride from Land's End to John O'Groats to raise money for Ty Hafan children's hospice at Sully.**

Brickwork lecturers Chris Bridgeman, Darren Hill and Paul Glover will set out on the 957-mile journey on July 3.

The cycle trek will last for 10 days over the first two weeks of the summer holidays.

"Darren and Paul are keen cyclists and it seemed like a good challenge so I began cycling last year," Chris Bridgeman said. "It's one of those things you do once and once only!"

"We've all done a lot of training," Paul Glover



(Left-right) Paul Glover, Darren Hill and Chris Bridgeman in their cycling finery.

added. "Chris Bridgeman has just done a charity route for Barnardo's and cycles regularly at weekends and I'm doing the Dragon Route with Darren Hill which is 126 miles. We all cycle in to work as we're thinking about reducing our carbon footprint."

Darren Hill added: "It's a challenge we're all looking forward to, and we would like to thank the college for providing us with a bus for a support vehicle and brickwork lecturer Anthony Parry to drive it."

Chris Bridgeman has set up a JustGiving account for donations that can be found at: <http://www.justgiving.co.uk/Chris-Bridgeman>.

## St John Wales award winners

**THREE St John Wales life-savers, including a Bridgend woman, were among those to receive awards approved by the Queen at a special investiture ceremony in Llandaff Cathedral recently.**

The Duke of Gloucester, Grand Prior of the Order of St John, presented awards to more than 40 St John members after he officially installed the charity's new Prior, Dan Clayton-Jones OBE.

Hazel Cook, who helped save a man who had a cardiac arrest last year at the 2010 Royal Welsh Show, is a Dame of the Order.

Other lifesavers recognised at the ceremony included St John Wales volunteers Allen Jones, of Clydach, and Barbara Breeze, of Bridgend, promoted as Officers of the Order of St John.

They saved the life of heart attack victim Gerwyn Thomas at the Liberty Stadium, after they defibrillated him twice and administered CPR until the paramedics arrived.

Mr Thomas is now championing the charity's campaign for defibrillators to be readily available across Wales.

The charity's Commissioner for north Wales, Rev David Griffiths, was promoted as a Knight of the Order of St John and Lieutenant Colonel Rhodri Traherne, of St Nicholas, was promoted to Knight, having been instrumental in the organisation and execution of many investiture ceremonies and events throughout Wales.

The Order of St John was founded as a Christian charity in the 11th Century. Today it is a Royal Order of Chivalry, with the Queen as its sovereign head. It comprises two dynamic foundations – the first aid charity, St John Ambulance, and the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital.

### Other winners

**ADMISSION to Officer Brother/Sister:** Lt Col Caroline Whittaker, Vale of Glamorgan.

**Admission as a Member, Male and Female:** Ms Beverley Johnson, Bridgend and Mr Christopher Thomas, Bridgend.

## 'Lafarge must consult on fuel plans' – Vale AM

**"LAFARGE must consult local residents on its proposal to use two additional waste derived fuels (solid recovered fuel and end of life tyres) in its cement-making operation at Aberthaw," said Vale AM Jane Hutt this week.**

"It is very important that Lafarge consults fully and widely with local residents on its fuel plans and I was glad to attend one of the recent infor-

mation exhibitions arranged by Lafarge's Aberthaw Works team who were on hand in local community halls to answer any questions.

"Ultimately, the Environment Agency's consultation on the environmental permit application from Lafarge Cement UK will be a key part of the determination process.

"I would be pleased to hear views of local residents who attended the information exhibitions," the AM added.

## The Vale Volunteer Bureau will be hosting

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# Facing up to fresh challenges for new Welsh Government

**WITHIN** days of being re-elected as the Bridgend Assembly member, Carwyn Jones was nominated, approved and appointed as the First Minister of the Welsh Government.

Having won 30 seats in an Assembly of 60 members, it was clear this would be a challenge (which the First Minister acknowledged) and he spoke about the need for the Government to reach out and engage openly and constructively to ensure we deliver on our policies and programmes for the people of Wales, with the support of the Assembly.

With the unopposed approval also, of Labour's Rosemary Butler AM as the Presiding Officer and the election of David Melding AM, the Conservative regional member for South Wales Central, as the Deputy Presiding Officer (after an election between William Graham and himself), the balance remains, with Labour as a minority Government for Wales.

We have been here before, as we won the same number of seats in 2003 and I played a key part as Minister for Assembly Business during the second half of that administration.

By the end of the first week, following the election, I was appointed by the First Minister to be the Finance Minister and Leader of the House, engaging me in crucial duties and responsibilities in a minority Government as I seek to secure the support of the Assembly in

these difficult times of reducing budgets.

Alongside my financial responsibilities, I will be working to ensure that Government legislation passes through the Assembly with full and competent scrutiny, delivering on our legislative programme, soon to be announced by the First Minister.

This means working closely with colleagues in all political parties as well as my own group of 30 Labour Assembly Members.

Every week, I meet with the business managers of the three other political parties, to ensure we manage the Assembly effectively and fairly.

I also make a statement to the Assembly following First Minister's Questions every week, when I am asked to include debates and statements of interest to members and to follow them up with ministerial colleagues, replying to concerns or defending the status quo if and when appropriate.

So the hard work has quickly begun as we consider the challenges ahead in this five-year Assembly session – but they are challenges I relish, working with people I have known and respected across the

## ASSEMBLY NOTES



**by Jane Hutt AM**  
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

political spectrum over the past 12 years.

There are many areas of policy and manifesto commitments which strike accord across the political parties.

Securing fair funding for Wales from the UK Coalition Government is a top priority. This has featured in my first week of work with finance officials and will be taken forward with the leadership of the First Minister.

Alongside the challenging first days in the new Welsh Government, I have been following through a wide range of constituency commitments which have given me great enjoyment, as well as requiring swift

action to take up the steady flow of casework and issues affecting my constituents.

The enjoyment has come from the many festivals being held across the Vale of Glamorgan, including the innovative Vale Walking Festival organised by Valeways.

The walk from Nash Point to Southerdown with the Heritage Coast wardens was memorable.

Attending the Dinas Powys Music Festival concert in St Andrews Major church was a great pleasure. The Vale Learning Festival held in libraries and community venues was also a great success last week as part of Adult Learners' Week culminating in the Inter-generational Day last Saturday at Barry Library and Art Central.

The inspiring new Cowbridge Book Festival is a great addition to the Vale Festival calendar, with funds raised for leukaemia research at the 'sell-out' event with Alistair Campbell and Jamie Owen which I thoroughly enjoyed.

So I am rising to the challenges of Government and constituency responsibilities and I am thankful that I have the opportunity to continue to serve in this way.

## From rhetoric to reality

**IT** was reassuring to read Coun James' letter in last week's GEM responding to the recent concerns expressed about the gypsy/traveller site.

Clearly it was a subject which will continue to require close scrutiny by those in the commu-

nity likely to be affected. I do, however, despair that the council, always after the event, makes a clarifying statement to take us all out of panic mode, to set the record straight, as Coun James described it.

Would it not be more sensible and certainly informative to us all to consider maybe a periodic announcement in

the local press which would keep us all updated as to proposed plans in the pipeline, particularly those which may be deemed controversial.

Not everybody is au fait with the internet, so directing some to a three line web page link may not be the best way of ensuring open communication.

Lastly, having read the LDP, I note reference to the Community Involvement Scheme. This speaks of: *Creating the conditions for early involvement and feedback at a stage when people can recognise a chance to influence the plan; encouraging the commitment of all participants to an open and honest debate on realistic development alternatives in the search for a consensus; and recognising the need to adopt approaches for engaging the community, including business, which seeks the views of those not normally involved.*

I am hopeful that this isn't the usual rhetoric which one finds in most planning documents and it will be interesting to observe the real world measures adopted to ensure that this doesn't just remain aspirational. Robert Taylor, Barry.

# Local groups and charities share in Lottery cash boost

A LOTTERY grant of nearly £1 million (£982,637) has been awarded to enable Tenovus cancer charity to establish 15 new 'Sing for Life' choirs for cancer patients over 50 years old, their families, carers, friends and those who have been bereaved through the disease across Wales.

Other groups to benefit include the Alzheimer's Society which will use £1,945,018 to provide a befriending and advice service for sufferers living in isolated areas; Deafblind UK which receives £603,786 to help older people with sight and hearing loss access services and RNIB Cymru which will use £362,504 to support blind and partially-sighted older people.

The Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) will spend its Lottery award of £835,953 on a project to provide community cafes and one to one befriending for older people across Bridgend.

This will ask 'social involvers' to phone someone for a chat, providing support to attend appointments or visiting someone at home.

They will also promote the community cafes which will run for three hours a week from venues in the community. The project will develop two existing cafes and establish four more in Bridgend county.

Heidi Bennett, Director of BAVO, explained: "The community cafes and social involvers project will encourage older people to socialise, access information, and will generally support them, so that they ultimately feel they have a better quality of life and improved sense of wellbeing."

Mental Health Matters Wales Ltd in Bridgend receives £381,043 for a 'Moving On' befriending and mentoring project partnership with Mental Health Matters Wales Ltd and Bridgend People First, a learning disability organisation.

The project will support people aged 50 plus who are socially isolated due to mental health issues or learning disabilities, prioritising those who do not have family and friends in Bridgend county borough.

Vale Centre For Voluntary Services, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan, was awarded £887,327 for its 'Friendly Advantage' project.

It offers a range of befriending models to reduce loneliness and isolation and improve wellbeing of older people in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan.

Age Concern Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan has been awarded £962,396.

Its project will provide a regional advocacy service delivered in south east Wales by four Age Concern organisations developing their existing partnership.

## Vale AM's surgery

**THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery on Saturday (May 28) at The Old School, Wine Street, Llantwit Major, from 10am to 12 noon. No appointment necessary.**

For more information please contact the constituency office on 01446 740981.

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## Town council wants to take control of land near cemetery

**BARRY** Town councillors have passed a motion calling on the Vale Council, as owners of land to the east of Cemetery Road, to begin discussions which they hope will lead to them taking responsibility for it.

At the Town Council's annual meeting on May 10, councillors considered a motion submitted by Couns Stuart Egan and Theo Stenstrom.

Councillors pointed out that the Town Council had previously indicated that it would be inappropriate for either of the open spaces bisected by Cemetery Road to be used for housing or other related purposes.

They also noted that if the site to the east of Cemetery Road was allocated within the Local Development Plan for future cemetery use, it would enable the council to continue to provide an essential service to the local community, as well as helping to maintain the ambience and serenity of the cemetery access road.

Councillors were reminded that the council had previously submitted outline proposals for maintaining the former allotment land located to the east of Cemetery Road for the benefit of the local community, in ways which would be compatible with the adjacent cemetery, thereby conserving the open space for the quiet enjoyment of future generations.

generations.

The Town Council unanimously approved Coun Egan and Councillor Stenstrom's motion, calling upon the Vale Council, as the owners of the land located to the east of Cemetery Road, to commence meaningful discussions as a matter of urgency concerning the site, so the Town Council could take responsibility for maintaining it.

Councillors understand this type of arrangement is possible via the provisions of the Unitary Council's Charter with Town and Community Councils within the Vale, as well as other arrangements which could be agreed between the two councils.

A Vale Council spokesman said: "We are considering a letter which has been received from Barry Town Council."

## Mixed results for Heritage Coast in Good Beach Guide

**BEACHES** along the Heritage Coast have, in the main, fared well in the latest edition of the Good Beach Guide, launched this week by the Marine Conservation Society (MCS).

Portcawl will be pleased, as all three beaches tested, Rest Bay, Sandy Bay, and Trecco Bay have all retained the recommended status awarded the previous year.

Along the Heritage Coast, beaches that have retained their recommended status are at Cold Knap and Whitmore Bay.

The latter, of course, is now much more famous, courtesy of the TV series *Gavin and Stacey*.

Another recommended beach is at Southerndown, which has been upgraded from its status the previous year, where it gained a basis pass mark.

The beach at Fontygary has also been given recommended status.

However, some beaches in the Vale

have slipped this year. Jackson's Bay has fallen from recommended to a basis pass, while Barry's Watch House Bay has dropped from a basis pass to a fail.

Ogmore Central and Llantwit Major have both stayed the same, recording a basis pass this year and last, while Ogmore West, which failed last year, has failed again this year.

A total of 92 Welsh beaches have been recommended as having excellent bathing water quality.

Out of the 154 beaches that were sampled, 11 beaches have failed. The report says:

"These beaches fail to meet even the basic standards set 35 years ago in European law."

"They present a potential health hazard for beachgoers, who may face unacceptable levels of bacteria and viruses in the sea water."

MCS says this is a real cause for concern.

The head of visible services at the Vale Council, Miles Punter, said: "On the whole, the water quality results for Vale beaches are encouraging."

"It is, however, disappointing that, despite significant investment by Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water over a number of years, a few of our coastal areas have failed to reach a suitable standard."

"We will continue to work with Dwr Cymru / Welsh Water, Keep Wales Tidy and the Environment Agency to promote higher standards of water quality throughout the entire coastline of the Vale of Glamorgan."

### Charity dog show

A **CHARITY** dog show will be held on June 18 at Bryncae Community Centre, Llanharan (judging 2pm).

It will raise money for Bridgend Deaf (Sports and Social Club), Bridgend. Classes for pedigree dogs and cross breeds and two especially for children.

Prizes, rosettes, raffle, refreshments. All friendly dogs and their people welcome.

Further details from dogshows4u@aol.com or 01443 225399.

**Summer trip**  
**LLANTWIT** Major Horticultural Society is running a trip to Savill Gardens, Windsor, on Sunday, June 26.

The coach leaves from the car park behind Llantwit Rugby Club at 7.30am, £24 per person includes entry to garden. Everyone welcome.

Contact Elizabeth Rees on 01446 750387 for more information.

## Plans to use first batch of Barry regeneration cash

**THE first £300,000 of the £9 million Barry regeneration cash is to be spent, in the main, on Vale Council officer time to project manage a number of schemes.**

The details were revealed in a recent report to the Vale Council cabinet. It follows the March 2010 Assembly decision to designate Barry as a 'Regeneration Area' and grant £9 million to bring together partners and contribute to investment in the town.

The £300,000 has been earmarked for a series of projects:

- Barry Island Station's replacement footbridge will receive £100,000 to match fund application for funding from the Department for Transport's 'Access for All Mid-Tier Programme'.

The deadline for returning completed applications is May 27.

## Ash cloud disrupts flights

**THE ash cloud released by the eruption of a volcano in Iceland led to the cancellation of some flights in and out of Cardiff Airport on Tuesday (May 24).**

All but one concerned flights to Scotland. An Eastern Airlines flight to Aberdeen, due in at 6.15pm for a 6.40pm departure, failed to arrive.

Also, two Flybe flights, one to Glasgow and one to Edinburgh, were cancelled.

However, fears that the ash cloud might be spreading were exacerbated when the Flybe flight to Paris was also cancelled.

**CASTLELAND** COMMUNITY volunteers at Barry drop-in centre have organised activities for half term.

On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 2pm until 4pm - there is a range of sports activities (football, rugby, cricket) at the multi-court area, Belvedere Crescent.

On Wednesday (10am until 2pm) - there is an open day and arts and crafts at Castleland Community Centre, plus information on DIC Theatre & Arts Group.

Tel: 01446 41111 or 01446 403549 for full details.

by **PHILIP IRWIN**

with a decision expected by September 5, 2011.

- The Innovation Quarter will receive £40,000 to fund feasibility and outline design work to "develop the interface" between the land held by the Waterfront Consortium and Vale Council land at the Innovation Quarter.

- The Vale Heritage Centre will get £10,000 to fund the preparation of a feasibility report.

A number of other projects require officer time to project manage different schemes.

- A total of £60,000 is required to project manage a number of major physical regeneration projects including, the Innovation Quarter, Barry Steam Railway Project, Central Station Park and Ride and

Barry Island Action Plan.

- The Economic Development Unit needs £24,000 to "assist in the development, delivery and evaluation of physical regeneration projects and programmes associated with the Welsh Assembly Government Barry Regeneration Area programme".

- The Landscape Design Service is to use £35,000 to develop and deliver the public realm, public open space and public art elements of major physical regeneration projects including, Barry Town Centre, Innovation Quarter, Barry Island Action Plan and Castleland Renewal Area.

The report notes that £31,000 of the £300,000 remains unallocated, and this will be held in abeyance as a contingency.

## LOCAL SCHOOL TRANSPORT: all change on the buses

**FOLLOWING** discussions with the bus operator Veolia Transport Cymru, the Vale Council says it has arranged for school buses operated by Veolia to be re-allocated to other bus companies.

The only exception is Service S9 which runs from Barry to St Cyres School in Penarth, which will continue to be operated by Veolia until Friday, June 24.

Timetables and routes in the majority of cases remain the same although where practical there may be some amalgamation of services. Schools affected have

been notified.

Coun Jeffery James, cabinet member for planning and transportation, said: "While the Vale Council had hoped that Veolia would have continued operating these school buses until June 24, recent reliability issues have left the council with no option other than to find alternative bus operators to fill the gap during difficult times."

"This is all the more important as pupils and schools have started the examination period. I am confident that the council has reacted quickly and efficiently to this problem with no resultant disruption to pupils."

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## VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

# Heavy cost of MoD's failures at St Athan

**The Defence Technical College proposed for St Athan made the news once again last week.**

ITV Wales interviewed a senior manager from the former Metrix consortium, who was scathing about how the MoD handled the project over the last six years.

The manager, Lawrence Lewis, talked of 'endemic failures' in the MoD's culture, which led to delay after delay – meaning the project went billions over budget.

The plan was initially formed in 2005 and the delays amounted to more than three years. Based on the original start date, the college would have been up and running two years ago.

Mr Lewis stated that the MoD did not adapt to changing technology; that programmes aimed to last decades were taken by short-term management appointments.

All in all, his biting comments confirm some of the worries expressed to me when the Metrix plan was cancelled last year.

The Secretary of State for Defence, Dr Liam Fox says that he has had to get to grips with the department that was



**Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers**

clearly mismanaged; the ultimate demonstration came when he showed that cancelling a contract for an aircraft carrier that hadn't been built would be more expensive than allowing it to go ahead!

It is important to confirm, however, that the St Athan site remains in the running for Defence Technical Training. I have had several meetings with Liam Fox to lobby and champion the case for the RAF base.

He tells me that they are currently crunching the numbers to rationalise 11 training schools on nine different sites, currently under three com-

mands, to confirm where best training can be conducted.

There was a plan to highlight the shortlist by March 31, which unfortunately wasn't possible.

I have asked for another meeting with the Secretary of State to clarify the date when the next formal announcement will be made.

I believe that the suitability of the site could mean savings to the MoD and enhanced training.

It is important to recognise that significant work has already been done and more is continuing. A large amount of technical training takes place at St Athan and I was delighted to open the new Headquarters Building ('Lancaster') at No 4 School of Technical Training on the site some weeks ago.

I also learnt about the level of training needed to produce specialist engineers of the highest calibre, and met the trainees who were working on the design and repairs of essential vehicles.

It was clear from the visit that there is significant activity on the site which is not necessarily recognised by the wider community.

My aim is to ensure that the activity grows.

## Colcot school pupils get more sporty!

**THE pupils at Colcot Primary School have enjoyed a very sporty week.**

The school rugby team had a successful and enjoyable time at the 'Future Blues' rugby tournament. Staff and parents praised the team for their efforts on the field of play and also for their sportsmanship.

The children were thrilled with the opportunity to play at the Arms Park and to take part in an exciting tournament.

The summer schedule of after school clubs started this week with athletics, cricket and rounders on the menu for the junior children.

The clubs make use of the playing fields and offer a large number of children the opportunity to develop and improve

their sporting skills.

The school will be offering another after school club next week following free taster sessions at school.

Rob Copeland will be taking karate sessions every Tuesday. This privately-run club will add to the opportunities available to the children.

Mike Fowler continues to run his successful after school football club at the school every Monday evening. Mike will also be working with the children during their forthcoming open morning on June 14.

Everyone is welcome at the open morning between 9.30am and 11.30am to see the variety of different opportunities available at the school.

## Jury set to consider the verdict in murder trial

**REPORT by AJ SICLUNA**

**AS The GEM went to press yesterday (Wednesday) the jury at Cardiff Crown Court trying a Penarth mother, who is accused of murdering her 11-year-old autistic son by strangling him with a belt, were due to retire to consider their verdict.**

Yvonne Freaney, 49, has denied the charge of murder but admitted manslaughter on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

The prosecution did not accept this plea. The trial began on

May 9 and Freaney herself was not called to give evidence.

Police found Freaney and her son's body in the Sky Plaza Hotel, Rhose, one year ago.

She told them "I killed him about 36 hours ago. I strangled him. I used my belt over there by the bed."

She said he was severely autistic but would now be happy in heaven.

Freaney was described by prosecutor Gregg Taylor QC as a devoted mother.

Freaney, the jury was also told, had endured a lengthy history of domestic abuse and self harm and lived in "dirty and cluttered" conditions.

Mr Taylor claimed that the prosecution contention was that "this is a straightforward case of murder, and that will be the correct verdict."

## COMMONS MOVE

**THE Vale MP, Alun Cairns, has been elected by his colleagues to the Commons Public Administration Select Committee.**

He commented: "I am sorry to see for considering the quality and have left the Welsh Affairs standards of administration in the Committee and although the Civil Service and scrutinises the Administration Select Committee reports of the Parliamentary and mandate is broader, it is equally important to the Vale and to Wales."

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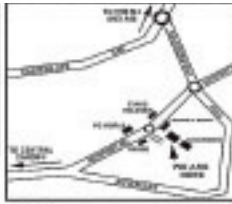
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## Report points to 'shocking' figures DRINK BLAMED FOR RISE IN CRIMES OF VIOLENCE IN VALE

by PHILIP IRWIN

A shock report links alcohol to a 13.6 per cent rise in violent crime in the Vale – and it also reveals an alarming 46.2 per cent rise in serious sexual offences.

The report was presented to the Vale Council yesterday (Wednesday) by the office of the director of legal, public protection and housing services.

On serious violence, it says that the target was a 5 per cent reduction, but in fact there was a 13.6 per cent increase.

The report lays the blame for this increase squarely on drinking.

It says: "A large number of alcohol-related incidents have occurred. There still seems to be a strong link between alcohol consumption and our most serious incidents of violence."

It says that the Safer Vale Partnership recently commissioned Vibe experience to conduct a survey to establish youth attitudes towards drugs, including alcohol.

This information, says the report, along with information from a recent Safer Vale survey will help the Partnership target resources and services to tackle alcohol-related crime, especially alcohol-related violence.

The second missed target related to serious sexual offences:

The target of a 28 per cent reduction over two years was missed, with the figures in fact showing

ing a startling 46.2 per cent increase. The report explains this shocking figure by saying a number of "historic" cases have come to light, resulting in the figures climbing beyond the target.

The report goes on to say: "In the majority of cases the suspect is known to the victim and is usually a family member, acquaintance or friend."

The clear inference is that a number of offenders who thought they had 'got away with' past crimes have now been brought to justice.

The report says that the domestic abuse co-ordinator will be working with agencies across the Vale and Cardiff to raise the profile of reporting sexual violence, and to make people aware of the support available.

### OVERALL, CRIME FALLS

The statistics also reveal that over the year 2010-2011, crime overall fell by 5.1 per cent compared to 2009/2010 and there were areas where targets have been reached or exceeded.

These include:

- Domestic violence: Target 2.5 per cent reduction in repeat victims, target achieved, 6 per cent reduction

The report says that the domestic abuse co-ordinator, along with relevant agencies, has "done an excellent job of raising awareness of domestic

abuse within the Vale".

However, actual reported incidents of domestic abuse have still increased by 25 per cent.

The report argues that this is a sign that victims are more confident in reporting such incidents, and says that the response by police and other agencies is succeeding in reducing the number of repeat incidents.

- Serious acquisitive crime, where the target was 10 per cent, achieved a reduction of 15.1 per cent. However, the report says that there has been an increase in domestic burglary offences, 14.4 per cent compared to 2009/10.

It says the increase in burglary occurred in the latter part of 2010 and the early part of 2011, and that five wards in Barry were the locations of approximately 40 per cent of all dwelling burglaries in the Vale.

The majority of offenders, when crimes were detected, were males. Set against these increases, however, were large decreases in the amount of vehicle crime in the Vale.

Theft of motor vehicles reduced by 15.4 per cent and theft from motor vehicles fell by 28.8 per cent compared to 2009/10.

Another area of the Safer Vale Partnership's

work concerned smoke alarms, where there was a target of reducing the number of properties without smoke alarms by 20 per cent. This target was missed, and in fact there was a 45.8 per cent increase.

The report says: "This is quite shocking when we take into account the fact that there was a 36 per cent increase in the number of alarms installed in 2009-10 compared to 2008-09."

The report says that previously the focus of the Fire Service was to increase the number of installations across the Vale and south Wales as a whole.

However evidence suggests that approximately three quarters of fire-related deaths and injuries involve people known to agencies associated with the local authority and Community Safety Partnership.

It says that focus is now shifting to the prioritising of high risk groups known to partnership agencies.

It is anticipated that during 2011-12, Fire stations in the Vale will install approximately 2,520 smoke alarms.

This is a reduction of 45 per cent in terms of the number fitted but it is intended to work with the Castletand Renewal Area to target services in that area.

## CCTV assists with two Barry arrests

CCTV operated by the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with two arrests in the week ending May 22.

It contacted the police on 33 occasions, with two arrests made at Holton Road, Barry. The first involved theft on May 19, and the second criminal damage on May 20.

## Residents say 'Vale is a safe place to live'



Vale residents Vince Price and Angela Burrows, winners of the prize draw, are pictured with Coun Paul Church at the new Station 20 community room at Barry Fire Station.

VALE residents had the chance to have their say on crime and disorder in the recent Safer Vale survey – which also offered a prize draw.

A Vale Council spokeswoman said that police in the Vale are successful in tackling crime, an

impressive return of more than 21 per cent.

"Respondents to the survey feel that the Vale is a desirable place, with 84 per cent stating that they feel the Vale is a safe place to live."

"Additionally, 61 per cent of respondents agree that police in the Vale are successful in tackling crime."



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# 'STRANGER DANGER!' WARNING AFTER MAN ATTEMPTS TO ABDUCT THREE YOUNG GIRLS

**WARNINGS** have been issued to parents throughout Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan, after an incident in which an attempt was made to abduct three young girls.

Police are investigating the incident, which took place last week in Talbot Green.

The girls, aged eight and ten years old were walking in Ely Valley Road at about 4pm on Monday, May 16, when a man called to them from a silver coloured car and asked if they wanted a lift.

They refused and the car, with tinted windows, then drove off.

Talbot Green Neighbourhood Policing Sergeant Jeff Jones said that this was a distressing incident for the three young girls, and they are hoping that anyone who witnessed the incident will come forward.

He added: "We also ask anyone with information about the identity of this man to contact the police."

Police schools liaison

## REPORT by JAYNE ISAAC

officers have been in touch with schools in the area and police have increased high visibility patrols in the neighbourhood at the start and end of the school day to help reassure both parents and children.

Police are reinforcing the "stranger danger" message by urging local youngsters to be careful when out playing, and to remind them to tell their parents or guardians where they were going.

Children are being told not to talk to strangers and to stay with their friends.

News of the attempted abduction has shocked parents throughout the area. One mother, who lives in the Aberthyn/Ystradowen area and whose child goes to Y Bont Faen in Cowbridge, said that she was very worried.

"The children have been warned at school about this incident, but I would never let my daughter out alone. It's far too worrying," she commented.

Warnings have gone

out from both the Vale and Bridgend education authorities.

A spokesman for the Vale Council said that they had asked all schools to remind staff and pupils to be vigilant at all times.

A spokesman for Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) said that the education authority had notified all schools of the incident.

Headteachers have then decided whether to take any further action. Some schools, although not all, have sent either letters or text messages to parents.

Rumours abound of sightings of the silver car near schools throughout a wide area.

One mother of a child in a Vale school said that the parents' grapevine was aware of incidents in both Bridgend and Margam.

However, South Wales Police issued a statement on this subject on Tuesday, May 24.

It said: "A number of calls have been received

by police officers reporting other similar suspicious incidents.

"While these calls have been well intentioned, a number of them have already been fully investigated and have been unfounded."

Detective Inspector Andy Jones said: "We are grateful to the public for their vigilance and we will investigate every incident that is reported to us."

"However, we ask that callers are certain of the events before they contact us, and give us as much information as possible."

Superintendent Dawn Hubbard said: "There have been a number of rumours circulating about abductions and attempted abductions in the area, as well as in Bridgend and Port Talbot."

"I want to reassure the public and parents and children in particular that no such incidents have taken place."

Anyone with information is asked to contact Sgt Jeff Jones at Talbot Green police station on the Crimestoppers number 0800 555 111.



ABOVE: Church officials (left to right Hadyn Burgess (church treasurer), Sheila Thursby (church secretary), Jack Fairweather MBE, Fay Fairweather and Rev. Duncan Ballantyne (church minister)

## HOLY TRINITY PLAQUE UNVEILED AT BARRY



Jack Fairweather unveils the plaque at Holy Trinity church.

AS previously reported, on May 14 at Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, Barry, long-serving member Jack Fairweather, MBE, unveiled the plaque to officially open the new building.

This was done in the presence of more than 100 friends of the church, including Church Moderator of the General Assembly, Rev Iain Hodgins, Moderator of the Association, Rev Tom Phillips and local dignitaries.

These included AOM Jane Hutt, Coun Gordon Kemp and his wife, Coun Kathryn Kemp, Mayor of the Vale, Coun Colin Osborne and the Mayoress, Mayor of Barry Town Council, Coun Bronwen Brooks and consort Mrs Kandi Elmore.

## School's PE gold star!

**GWENFO Church-in-Wales Primary School has received a gold star after its work in PE received a glowing report.**

Sport Wales and the Association for Physical Education are championing schools which recognise the importance of PE.

All schools can apply for ActiveMarc Cymru and this year, 29 schools from across Wales have sailed through.

Gwenfo was congratulated by Alun Cairns MP, who said: "Active Marc Cymru recognises that the school is committed to developing and delivering high quality physical education. Congratulations once again, and best wishes for the continued success of the school."

The chair of Sport Wales, Professor Laura McAllister, explained: "We believe that schools play an essential role in building a Wales in which children are hooked on sport for life."

"It is important that young people have positive early experiences of sport and physical activity that build a foundation for lifelong involvement in sport. This award recognises those schools that are giving our children an excellent start."

## Roadworks

Thompson Street, Barry and A 4050 Port Road East, Barry – temporary traffic control.

## CHARITY BALL

THE Miss Wales finalists will be present at the Miss and Mister Wales charity ball in aid of the Joshua Foundation at the Mercure Holland House Hotel in Cardiff on July 1, the night before the Miss Wales 2011 final.

Hosted by the reigning Miss Wales, Courtenay Hamilton, the black tie ball will include a drinks reception, three-course meal and entertainment.

Tickets and further information from [www.miss-wales.co.uk](http://www.miss-wales.co.uk)

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## Bonvilston concert supports the Vale's Eisteddfod effort



Photographs by IAN DIXON  
THE Vale-wide fundraising campaign to support the 2012 National Eisteddfod in Llandow was boosted recently by a concert in Bonvilston Reading Room.

The Cantorian Choir was in fine voice and a packed hall enjoyed both the ensemble and solo pieces.

*RIGHT and BELOW RIGHT:  
Male and female members of the choir.*



## PTA's CURRY NIGHT IS ENJOYED BY ALL



THE PTA at Peterston-super-Ely school recently held a fundraising curry and ice cream supper at the community hall.

It was followed by an auction, raffle and disco.

The funds raised will go towards outdoor facilities for reception and nursery pupils.

(Photographs by IAN DIXON)



## SEARCH IS ON FOR VALE'S TOP GARDENERS

The Vale of Glamorgan Council has launched its annual search for the area's top gardeners.

The Barry, Penarth and Villages in Bloom competitions involve residents and businesses across the Vale, with organisers selecting overall Vale in Bloom winners in best front garden and best commercial classes.

The Barry and Penarth competition will cover six classes of best front garden, most beautiful hanging basket display, best disabled gardener's entry, best children's entry (under 16), best residential home/sheltered accommodation and best commercial entry (including schools, but with a slightly different judging criteria).

In the Villages in Bloom competitions, there will be two classes, best front garden and best commercial entry.

The competitions are free to enter, with cash prizes and plaques or certificates. Some winners can also receive the following trophies:

Front garden: Penarth's best entry in the seafront conservation area receives the Robert and Joan Ernest Trophy.

Hanging basket display: Barry winner (Peter May Memorial Trophy).

Disabled gardener: Barry winner (Tony Gatt Memorial Cup).

Children: Penarth winner (David Morgan Trophy) and Barry winner (Cabot Trophy).

The only requirement for entry is that displays must be visible from the road or footpath to the front of the property.



Application forms can be obtained from council offices in Barry (Civic and Dock), Wenvoe (The Alps) and local libraries, by telephoning 01446 700111 and on the council website [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk).

The closing date for entries is Friday, 1st July, 2011.

VALE of GLAMORGAN



VALE of GLAMORGAN



## Be a winner in the Vale's annual gardening competition

### Competition Classes

#### • Barry and Penarth

1. Best Front Garden
2. Most Beautiful Hanging Basket Display
3. Best Disabled Gardener's Entry
4. Best Children's Entry
5. Best Residential Home/Sheltered Accommodation
6. Best Commercial Entry

#### • Villages

1. Best Front Garden
2. Best Commercial Entry
3. Most Beautiful Hanging Basket Display

### Entry Form

Name .....

Full Address .....

Post Code ..... Telephone No. ....

Classes .....

Please send completed form to:  
Vale in Bloom, The Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA

- Entries must be clearly visible from the road or footpath to the front of the property.
- Prizes will be awarded for the first, second and third placed entrants in each class, as the judges deem appropriate. Plaques or certificates will be awarded to prize winners in all classes. Cash prizes will be awarded for non-commercial classes only. Commercial classes can allocate their prize to a charity of their choice.
- Children entering Class 4 must be under 16.
- Entrants who win a class for three consecutive years will not be allowed to enter the following year.
- Classes for the "Vale in Bloom Competition" will be – Best Front Garden and Best Commercial Entry
- Judging will take place during the two weeks commencing Monday, 1st August, 2011.
- Judges decision will be final in all classes.
- Closing date for entries will be on Friday, 1st July, 2011.





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## Students make a film about life

STUDENTS at Barry College have produced a film on young people's life choices, as part of 'Working as a Team' for BTEC workskills. It focuses on issues such as education, bullying, drugs and alcohol, as well as the impact of domestic violence. Pictured are Fast Forward Directions learners with (front) Barry College director of learning Emil Evans, assistant principal curriculum John Hilton, learning assistant Sarah Grant, general education lecturer Dawn Latham, in-class support worker Sunray Heap, learning zone assistant Debbie Trezise, and head of department, general education, Martin Gordon.

## Property Wanted

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Mr Andrew Fenton 01446 709945 or 07847 888 750  
Mr Simon Thomas 01446 791963 or 07847 888 740



**Chris Davies**  
sales@chris-davies.co.uk

## GOLF DAY RAISED £4,500 FOR CHARITY

THE annual NFU Mutual Insurance Charity golf day, organised by local businessmen David Harris and Julian Kelly, was held last Friday at the Grove Golf Club, near Porthcawl.

More than 100 golfers of variable ability, together with the support of many local businesses, raised more than £4,500 in support of the Ed Evans Foundation.

Results from the Ed Evans

Charity Golf Day

Winning team – NFU Southport agency with 106 points, comprising Neil Kenyon, David Shove, Andy Hilditch and James Skelton; runners-up – Laleston Lads team with 105 points, comprising Julian Kelly, Marc O'Sullivan, Gareth Jones and Paul Hodgkiss.

Third team – Big Foot Creative with 103 points, comprising Matthew Rees, Ray Murray, Joe Muir and Gareth Rees.

Best endeavour – The Leinster supporters team

with 43 points, Eddie, Tony and Paddy Collins with Aubrey Thomas.

Men's individual – Andy Hilditch with 41 points.

Men's individual runner-up – Marc O'Sullivan with 36 points.

Ladies individual – Sarah Morris with 31 points.

Ladies individual runner-up – Marianne Allan with 28 points.

Men's longest drive – Matthew Rees.

Ladies longest drive – Dr Gail Price.

Nearest the pin 4th hole – sponsored by The Red Fox, Penlyne – Darrell Hammond.

Nearest the pin 7th hole – sponsored by The Grove Golf Club – Hadyn Painter.

Nearest the pin 12th hole – sponsored by The Bear Hotel, Cowbridge – Marc O'Sullivan.

Nearest the pin 18th hole – sponsored by Huddarts Restaurant, Cowbridge – Paul Davy.

Correctly guessing the number of balls that would be lost (247) – Jim Hayes.

TMCc



David Harris presenting the cheque to Mrs Sue Evans, mother of Ed Evans.



Clive Thomas collects the best endeavour prize.

## VALE BRIDGE CLUB WINS A £2,613 LOTTERY GRANT

VALE of Glamorgan Bridge Club held a celebration on Monday at Cowbridge Rugby Club, to mark a Big Lottery Awards For All grant of £2,613 to purchase computer 'Bridgemate' equipment. Jane Hutt AM handed over the cheque.

The club was formed in 1987 at the Cowbridge Leisure Centre. The committee included myself as chairman, Dennis Smith as vice chairman, Mrs Marjorie Smith as treasurer and Pat Swain as secretary, who are all present members, and now joined by Graham Norris as tournament director and Barbara Easterbrook and Margaret Bancroft as committee officers.

In 1997, we moved to the



Brian Swain and his wife Pat with Jane Hutt AM.

British Legion Club and changed the name to Vale of Glamorgan Club. In 2005, the British Legion Club closed down and we temporarily moved to the Scouts Hall, but because of difficulties experienced at the premises, we were fortunate to change to the Cowbridge Rugby Club premises where we have spent many happy

years up to the present time. It is intended that the new equipment now purchased will enable us to join other bridge clubs in offering immediate scoring of bridge events electronically at the end of each session, and also hopefully to recruit new members.

BRIAN SWAIN

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SATURDAY JULY 9 Leave 3.30pm back 10.30pm  
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# LOCAL STREET DANCE TEAMS SHINE IN WELSH SCHOOLS COMPETITION

**DANCERS** from four of the Vale secondary schools competed in the UDO Welsh Inter High School street dance competition on May 14 at Newport Leisure Centre against schools from across Wales.

The youngsters aged between 11-18 years competed in duos and team divisions before a judging panel of professional dancers and choreographers.

The event was supported by the Sports Council of Wales 5x60 initiative which aims to get teenagers taking regular exercise each week.

Local schools taking part were Bryn Hafren, St Richard Gwyn, Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and Cowbridge.

The duo section had entries from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg with Sophia Hathaway and Millie Charles Davies, Elysia Bobbett and partner Kerys Jenkins.

St Richard Gwyn was represented by Christina Tsentis and Frankie McGill, Keera Gravett and Olivia Miller and Callum Osborne and Chloe Parris took second place in the final with their outstanding duo.

Cowbridge, Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and Bryn Hafren had teams perform to a very high standard in the junior division but only the top five were chosen to compete at the national finals later on this year in Blackpool – two Vale schools were successful in qualifying.

Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg's 'Composure' comprised year-7, 8 and 9 students; Chloe Staples, Kimberley Williams, Tesni Sewell, Elysia Bobbett, Chenice Lincoln, Evie Carter, Kerys Jenkins, Lowri Clarke, Millie Charles Davies and Sophia Hathaway.

This piece choreographed by their 5x60 dance tutor Sophie Squires and dance leader Samantha Owens, achieved fifth place.

Bryn Hafren 'Dolls' had the following students perform from year-7, 8 and 9 – Chloe Dawkins, Tillie Carter, Leah Shepperd, Rachel



Adrenaline Dance Crew, Bryn Hafren



'Composure', Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg.



Hazelton, Mollie Snell, Shannon Close, Chloe Davies, Kelsey Eady, Elizabeth Scott, Caitlyn Organ, Rebecca Weighell and Courtney Howells.

This unique dance piece choreographed by their 5x60 dance tutor Emma Mallam and dance leader Ellie Carter, achieved second place.

The senior division was represented by St Richard Gwyn High School and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive.

St Richard Gwyn were unlucky to miss out on the national finals by coming sixth in the competition with their dance piece 'Recess' choreographed by Emma Mallam and dance leader Yamin Harcourt.

Dancers Keera Gravett, Olivia Miller, Olivia Harris, Olivia McCormack, Callum Osborne, Chloe Parris, Frankie McGill, Christina Tsentis, Amber Horton, Ellie Gillard, Kate Spence and Paige Jones were devastated.

They were pleased, however, that dancers from Bryn Hafren,

Amber Summers, Nioami Everitt, Rhia Dutton, Brooke Clark, Rhian Dwyer, Kiera Davies and Chalise Ludvigsen known as 'Adrenaline,' won first place with their outstanding performance and choreographic piece.

The three Vale teams will now be competing at the national schools final against school teams from across the UK where they will also have the chance to meet.

I am so proud of the standard of street dance that was shown on the day of the competition from all the dancers from the Vale schools.

Their dedication and commitment to the 5x60 dance sessions showed in their performance, as they were all confident and interesting to watch.

Thanks go to all the tutors and 5x60 officers from each school for their hard work and support.

EMMA MALLAM

## BARRY TOWN BUY-OUT ON OFFER TO FANS

**BARRY TOWN fans are in a league level.**

**race against time to ensure the club can play in the at Jenner Park have been paid for by MacWhirter Welsh League for the current chairman since he saved the club seven years ago – but he can no longer subsidise the first team.**

**Supporters need to raise the sum of £125,000 and be able to make additional payments in years to come.**

**A statement on the club's website explained: "Barry Town AFC Ltd is being offered for sale at a reduced price in order for the first team to continue playing in the Welsh League.**

**"The club is being offered at a £125,000 down payment with further instalments of £2,000 per month for three years."**

**If fans or an individual buyer cannot raise the necessary funds, it won't mean the end of the club, but the chairman Stuart Lovering has decided he can no longer pay out subsidies to the senior team.**

**The statement points out: "If no buyer is found the club will continue to operate children and youth teams, as well as adult teams – but at a lower**

**"The costs of the team and playing the club can play in the at Jenner Park have been paid for by MacWhirter Welsh League for the current chairman since he saved the club seven years ago – but he can no longer subsidise the first team.**

**"The club might therefore appeal to a couple of guys or a family who would like to own and run their own bar and football club with scope for greater income from starting food sales in the 400 capacity clubhouse that overlooks the stadium from the first floor."**

**The statement concludes: "Alternatively, one or more business-people may be interested in running the club as a self-funding enterprise to enjoy the football side of the business."**

**Serious investors are invited to contact Mr Lovering on 07751 441 561.**

ABOVE: 'Recess', St Richard Gwyn.

## Community council elects new chairman



Outgoing chairman Coun John Huw Williams transferring the chairmanship to incoming chairman Coun Christopher Williams.

**AT the annual general meeting of the Dinas Powys Community Council last week in Lee Hall, Coun Gale Smith proposed Coun Christopher Williams as chairman of Dinas Powys Community Council.**

She said that he had been a community councillor for nearly 20 years after winning a by-election in 1992.

He is chairman of scrutiny for economic development and environment, as well as being scrutiny champion for the Vale.

In 1980, he and his wife Jacqui moved to Dinas Powys and have three sons, Rhodri, Bryn and Ioan.

In 2000, he became a county councillor for Dinas Powys and served briefly in the Labour/Plaid cabinet holding the portfolio for planning and transportation.

He is chairman of Proiect Gwyrdd (Green Project) joint security panel for the combined councils of Cardiff, Caerffili, Monmouthshire, Newport and the Vale.

He is also chairman of Proiect Gwyrdd (Green Project) joint security panel for the combined councils of Cardiff, Caerffili, Monmouthshire, Newport and the Vale.

## Kay aims to be Welsh Learner of the Year

**A VALE woman is one of the four finalists in line for the Welsh Learner of the Year title.**

Kay Holder works as a private tutor in Spanish, French and German. Originally from Penarth, she lives in Dinas Powys and started learning Welsh at the Cardiff held National Eisteddfod in 2008.

She is now helping preparations for the 2012 National Eisteddfod which will be held at Llandow in the Vale.

Kay said: "I'm a vegan and I attend-

ed the Eisteddfod to promote veganism, and discovered a new language, culture and world.

"I also started learning the harp at the Eisteddfod in Cardiff and have already completed the Grade 3 exam. So the Eisteddfod changed my life!"

Kay studied Welsh when living in England, and after returning to Wales, has attended refresher courses and Siawns am Siarad 4.

The Welsh Learner result will be announced at this year's National Eisteddfod in Wrexham on July 30-August 6.

## Open Farm Sunday

**TO mark Open Farm Sunday – an annual event where people can meet local farmers who grow their food and care for the countryside – Slade Farm organics are opening their farm gates on Sunday, June 12 for a free day out.**

**Activities include tractor and trailer rides, pig-racing and a farm olympics, a gentle farm walk and a reviving cup of tea!**

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## NEWS FROM THE PENARTH &amp; DISTRICT RAMBLERS

## Walkers enjoy looking out from Holy Mountain

ON an overcast morning, a group of 15 walkers, including leader Clive, made their way to Llanvihangel Crucorney at the start of a nine-mile walk in the area, beginning at possibly the oldest pub in Wales – the Skirrid Inn, which dates back to 1100.

Crossing the main A465 road with care, the group headed down the driveway of the privately owned Llanvihangel Court, a 15th century Tudor manor house which contains some fine 17th century panelling, plaster ceilings and a fine oak staircase.

Continuing along a tree-lined lane, they crossed fields to reach a lane, which in turn led them to Pen-y-Parc, where they paused to enjoy morning coffee,

watched closely by a bull in a nearby enclosure, which plainly had his eye on their sandwiches!

The gentle ascent of The Arwallt followed along to the base of the north end of the Skirrid Mountain. Joining part of the Beacons Way, the 100-mile long distance footpath running through the centre of Wales, the group began to climb up onto the ridgeway.

They passed the remains of the Roman Catholic Church dedicated to St Michael that was reputed to be a secret location for Catholic mass during the 17th century when Catholics were persecuted for practising their faith.

Folklore has it that the earth from Skirrid was holy, and so it was taken away and scattered in fields on coffins and into the foundations of churches.

Skirrid Mountain or Holy Mountain or Sacred Hill as it is known, is

named Ysgyryd Fawr in Welsh, the word Ysgyryd indicating the shape of the hill and meaning shattered. Legend has it that the hill broke into two at the time of Christ's crucifixion during a violent storm but realistically, it was formed during the Ice Age.

From their vantage point, they could enjoy the clear uninterrupted views of Brecon, Sugar Loaf and towards the Malvern Hills, before it was time to begin the gentle descent along to the southern end of the ridge.

Finding a sun trap out of the blustery wind, the group enjoyed lunch before continuing downhill to return around the base of the mountain, where in a wood the bluebells were still in flower and very fragrant.

Passing through the valley of the rocks, they crossed several fields and a small wood to return to

Llanvihangel Court, followed by some welcome refreshment at the Skirrid Inn. It is said, the rebel self-proclaimed Prince of Wales, Owain Glyndwr, whose aim (amongst others) was to make Wales independent, is alleged to have rallied his troops in the cobbled courtyard in the early 15th century before marching into battle.

On May 28, meet at 9am at Cogan Leisure Centre for an eight-mile moderate walk at Cwmcamlais; contact Phil on 01446 711533.

On May 29, meet 9.30am at Cogan for a seven-mile moderate walk in the Margam area; contact Val H on 029 2051 3274.

On June 2, meet at 7pm at Dinas Powys village square for a 3.5-mile moderate evening walk at St Andrews; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

JOY STRANGWARD

## Penarth Computer Club news

Mike F spoke about AutoCorrect to remind us how useful and customisable it can be. These are his (edited) notes:

INITIALLY, I would point out that the software I use is 'Open Office' which is a free download. It operates in most aspects exactly the same as 'Microsoft Word'. For this cameo talk, my experience indicates

that the Auto correct function is identical.

Before examining Auto correct in detail, note two related icons on the toolbar marked 'ABC'. The one with the tick underneath it (when clicked) will undertake a grammar and spell check of the whole document. The other icon, the 'ABC' with the wavy line underneath, switches on and off the 'Auto spell Check' function that draws a wavy line under-

neath any word the computer doesn't recognise. If you click on the relevant word it will provide a list of the words you might intend.

To access 'Auto correct' you click on `Format > Auto correct > Auto correct Options`. This opens the Auto correct dialogue box. This displays four tabs, namely 'Replace', 'Exceptions', 'Localised Options' and 'Word Completion'.

Taking these tabs in sequence, 'Replace' lists

those words that are commonly misspelled together with the correction that will be made. In addition, if there are any words you constantly mistype you can add these too. There is a useful function in this section which is not always appreciated. If you regularly write the same phrase, sentence or paragraph you can insert a code (a deliberate misspelling!) in the left hand box and in the replace box write what you want instead.

Thereafter, whenever you type the relevant code, when you press the spacebar your phrase, sentence or paragraph will be substituted. eg mfa(spacebar) will insert my full address because I have set it to do this.

Next along the line is 'Exceptions'. This does what it says on the tin! For example, if you wish to abbreviate the word accountant to acct; if you write acct, it might automatically insert the full word, but as it is in the exceptions list if you type acct, with a full stop after the 't' it will accept it.

After this comes 'Options' – this one largely speaks for itself, here you can tick boxes to select those functions you wish to use.

'Localised Options' allows you to set the system to ensure whenever you type 1, followed by s, and t, it makes it 1st. In the same way you can opt to use single or double quote marks.

The final 'Word Completion' tab completes the word it thinks you want. Eg, 'comp' might be completed as 'completion', hit enter to accept the change. Some find this unhelpful as wrong assumptions then need editing! You could use the crafty cheat under the 'Replace' tab as described above.

Enquiries on 029 2070 8439.

Howard Desmond

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# Children's Choices

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE



Moving on from the Famous Five and Secret Seven....

## Childcare has changed since days of Enid Blyton

by  
**PHILIP  
IRWIN**

**T**HERE must be more than a few parents who approach half term and cast a wistful eye back towards child care in the Enid Blyton era.

Remember the adventures of the Famous Five and the Secret Seven? There were no parents anywhere to be seen in the stories. The kids were packed off to stay with an aunt in some secluded area far from the nearest town, but that one adult's only purpose was to provide a bed for the night, give them a packed lunch, and provide a slap-up

evening meal with, of course, 'lashings of ginger beer'!

As far as the Famous Five or Secret Seven were concerned, there were no organised play sessions or issues with parental supervision.

The kids provided their own entertainment by catching a gang of international smugglers, or perhaps by discovering the lair of a nest of spies! However, times change and there is no point moaning about it. The world is different now and you can't go back.

Traditionalists may complain that children today lead a hermetically sealed existence with no opportunity to

run wild and free, but we live in a different world.

For modern parents, the cup overflows with opportunities to give their child experiences that can be enriching, educational and fun!

After-school activities, whether at school or at any one of a myriad of evening sessions, already have parents following a timetable that is based around giving their child a chance to try different things, whether that be swimming, gymnastics, chess, drama – the list goes on...

When half term comes around, the dilemma seems to lie in whether to choose an activity that will develop the personality or the physical well-being.

It is ironic that, at a time when so much information is available on how to be a good parent, the sheer quantity of advice ends up leaving many parents confused (at best) or guilty (at worst).

As recently as last weekend, the newspapers were carrying reports saying that children nowadays are physically weaker than their counterparts 20 or so years ago.

They can, apparently, do fewer press-ups, sit-ups or pull-ups.

This is a surprise, because sports reports here in The GEM suggest that the Saturday or Sunday morning ritual of mini football or mini rugby is still going strong.

The question is, in a technological future with less scope for physical manual work, how important is that lack of strength and fitness going to be?

Perhaps the modern parent should be developing the IT skills rather than those biceps and quads!

Another dilemma for parents is this one: Do you work on your child's strengths or weaknesses?

This is a really tricky one because,

not surprisingly, children prefer to do the things they are good at. Somehow the joys of self improvement are lost on a young one.

Perhaps the thing to do is use times such as half term to embrace the different possibilities. On these pages there so many to choose from.

Half term is an ideal time to experiment. Do some old favourites but make sure you try a few new things to see how your child takes to them.

And finally... Well, you can always send them and a few friends out for the day to see if they catch some smugglers – with supervision, of course!

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## A CHANCE TO BURN OFF EXCESS ENERGY! FUNTIME AT VALE LEISURE CENTRES THIS HALF-TERM!

**Y**OU can't buy much for less than £1 these days, but at the Vale of Glamorgan's leisure centres this half term, there will be a range of fun activities on offer for just 50p!

That's all it will cost for youngsters aged four to 11 to take part in street dance and cheer-leading sessions, both of which will be on offer at all four of the county's main leisure centres in Barry, Penarth, Cowbridge and Llantwit

Major. A number of other activities taking place during the week will cost only £1, including dance mats, tag rugby, football and soft play.

The new interactive dance mats will also form one half of disability sport sessions at Barry Leisure Centre, along with a swimming lesson.

Further swimming lessons will be available for children aged four and above, in crash courses being held in Barry, Penarth and Llantwit Major.

Under-16s can also swim for free at specific times, or take their pick

from a number of pool-based activities, including snorkelling, water polo and a rookie life-guards course.

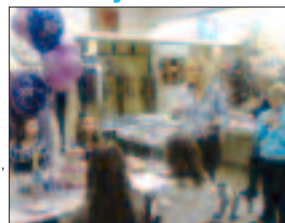
For full details, programmes can be collected from the leisure centres, or downloaded from [www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres](http://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/leisurecentres) (or call 01446 403000).

The Barry and Llantwit Major leisure centres will be closed on Monday, May 30, while Cowbridge Leisure Centre, Penarth Leisure Centre and Holm View Leisure Centre will all close early at 5pm on that day.

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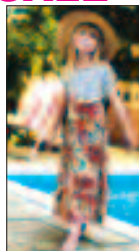
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# FRIDAY THE 13TH, LUCKY FOR SOME!

FRIDAY the 13th was certainly not an unlucky day for personnel at MoD St Athan – the weather might not have been up to much, but there was sunshine and smiles from SWARM members Diane Jones, Helen Taylor, Leah Lewis, and Stephanie White.

They toured the site with a wonderful selection of homemade cakes to sell in aid of Ty Hafan. During the morning, the sale of cakes raised more than £246 which went towards their sponsorship of the event.

SWARM members had again signed up to take part in the Ty Hafan Sleep Walk which took place in Cardiff on the night of Friday, May 13. The ladies walked from the Millennium Stadium around the city centre before heading to Cardiff



Left to right: Midnight Sleep Walkers, Leah Lewis, Stephanie White, Diane Jones and Helen Taylor.

Bay and then returning to the stadium.

The walk covered eight miles and to aid visibility and to keep the walkers safe, the organisers issued each participant with flashing bunny ears and glow jewellery to wear with their pyja-

mas. The ladies started arriving back at the stadium in the early hours of Saturday morning with the stragglers making it back by 5.30am!

SWARM member Diane, who walked with her daughter, Alison, said: "The Midnight Sleep Walk is a chance for women to show their support for mothers who have to endure endless nights with no sleep to care for their children."

"The walk is a much-needed event to not only raise money, but also to raise awareness of the work that Ty Hafan does to help these mothers when their child has a life limiting medical condition."

It was hoped that the 400 Midnight Sleep Walkers at the Cardiff event would raise over £4,000 in just one night!

A difficult challenge, but achievable – and there couldn't be a more worthwhile cause. **JB**

## Businessman's national award

BARRY businessman Clive Thomas has been awarded the 'leadership in private sector' award at this year's 2011 Leading Wales awards, which recognise leadership across all levels, in association with Real Radio Wales.

He was one of three finalists in the category and was recognised for 'setting an example and leading from the front'.



ABOVE: Clive Thomas.

## Another great GEM younger readers' competition

The GEM has joined forces with The Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl to offer two free pairs of tickets to this Saturday's High School Rocks extravaganza.

To win one of the two free pairs of tickets, you need to be quick! E-mail The GEM by noon on Friday 27 May with your name and contact details to [gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemsales@tindlenews.co.uk) with the subject line 'Grand Pavilion Competition'.

Please seek permission from a parent/guardian if you are under 16 and include their details when entering the competition. Please note, winners will need to pick up tickets from the Grand Pavilion box office on Saturday 28 May for the show which starts at 2.30pm.

Even if you're not successful, you can still book tickets for High School Rocks. Tickets are £12 and are available from the Grand Pavilion Box office on 01656 815995, or you can book online at [www.grandpavilion.co.uk](http://www.grandpavilion.co.uk)



Would-be Wildcats of all ages will love this afternoon of high energy, foot stomping, totally interactive music and singing with a set that features all the very best hits from all three High School Musicals, Hannah Montana – The Movie, Camp Rock with The Jonas Brothers and Glee. For one afternoon only the Grand Pavilion will become East High, and fans of all ages are invited to join in the fun.

## BARRY RFC 2010/11 SEASON REVIEW

# Successful season for rugby teams

AFTER being promoted as champions the season before, hopes were high that the Barry First XV were going to perform well again this season, under the management of Prosser and Gibbons.

The season got off to a flying start, with the team winning three on the trot, including two games where they achieved bonus points.

Hopes for successive promotions, however, were soon dented by a poor run of results, not helped by a mounting list of injuries to players in key positions.

Through hard work by the coaching staff and players, on and off the field, the team finally turned the corner just before Christmas when they notched a hard-earned win at home against Nantymoel.

With the turn of the year, more injuries meant that players graduating from the Second XV and youth team were given their shot in the first team, and they all performed admirably.

The combination of experience and youthful enthusiasm in the squad was reflected in the results, culminating in a derby victory against promotion-chasing Llantwit Major.

The green and whites finished strongly towards the end of the season, ending in fifth position, and having beaten three of the four teams above them in the table.

The future appears bright, and praise must be given to the coaching staff, management team and all the players involved.

**Barry Second XV** WITH both the First XV and youth team winning their respective leagues last season, many believed this would be the season for the Second XV.

With former player Dai Griffith joining the coaching staff alongside Rhidian Scott, and team manager Charlie Chucas continuing where he left off last season, the team got off to a flyer.

With a huge amount of players to choose from, many talented players were left out of the match squad altogether, but that did not affect the cohesion, as was reflected in the on-field results.

There was an extra steel in the Barry Second XV attitude and a determination to win every single game, culminating in some fantastic attacking rugby.

Nine straight wins before Christmas propelled them to the top of

the table, with impressive displays, particularly away at Pontyclun and Old Iltydians.

A slight dip in form just after the turn of the year, partially due to injuries and first team call-ups, failed to dampen the spirit of the squad, and it all came down to the last home game against Clwb Rygbi, when the team ran in six tries to secure the title and promotion.

The season showcased the talent that was available in the squad and that the players were no longer just happy with taking part.

The fantastic winning attitude was a pleasure to see and the coaching staff must be congratulated on creating such a positive mentality.

### Barrians

FOR many years, there was a struggle to find sufficient players to field a second team, but their success this season has seen the creation of a third team – the Barrians.

With player-manager Ken Chow persuading William Knappan out of retirement to help manage the team, many former players were lured back to don the green and white jersey once more with pride.

Blending the experience of these former players with the enthusiasm of others who have only just started playing rugby, the Barrians slowly found their way.

There were some disappointing results against much stronger opposition, but the team finally earned their first win away at Wick, followed by back-to-back victories against Sea View and Cardiff HSOB in November.

The Barrians continued to evolve in the second half of the season as more players joined, and their game against Spanish opposition from Vic was a celebration of rugby, with the match being played in good spirits.

The team will hope to build on their foundations laid this season and to continue to support the two teams above them, while also allowing players to enjoy themselves on the pitch.

### Club news

THE Barry RFC club dinner will be held on June 18.

Tickets are limited, and are £10 for players and £15 for non-players.

Anyone interested should contact the clubhouse or Andy Jamieson at Vale Street Post Office as soon as possible. **KC**

## Win England-Sri Lanka Test match tickets!

TO celebrate the first npower Test Match of 2011 from May 26-30, which will see England take on Sri Lanka at Sophia Gardens, Cardiff, npower are giving cricket fans a chance to watch the action unfold before their very eyes at the stadium!

Following their victorious win in Australia to retain the Ashes, England will be looking to make a solid start to the season on home soil.



However Sri Lanka will be no push over, so an exciting contest of wickets and runs is sure to be on the cards.

npower are proud sponsors of Test Match cricket. For more information, please visit [www.npower.com/cricket](http://www.npower.com/cricket) etc.

The Glamorgan GEM has a pair of tickets available for Saturday and Sunday, and for your chance to win a pair of tickets, just

answer the following question: Who is the current captain of the England Test team? A) Andrew Strauss, B) Kevin Pietersen or C) Andrew Flintoff.

Email your answer, along with full name and telephone number, to [gemsales@internet-today.co.uk](mailto:gemsales@internet-today.co.uk) no later than 11am on Friday, May 27.

You must be available to collect the tickets from our office in Cowbridge no later than 4pm the same day.

No correspondence will be entered into and judge's decision is final - good luck!

## Findlay's Find wins point-to-point race

**BARGAIN buy Findlay's Find – he cost his owners Paul and Myfanwy Miles just £500 – landed the mixed open race at the Gelligaer Farmers Hunt Point-to-Point Steeplechases in great style, coming home six lengths ahead of Chesnut Annie.**

Both the winner and runner-up are qualified with the Ystrad Taf Fechan Hunt, and when Chesnut Annie, under her regular pilot Isabel Tompsett, went clear of Lucky Nellerie approaching the 12th fence, her backers must have thought the 10-year-old mare was on her way to her 30th success.

But it was not to be, as the remarkable five-year-old Findlay's Find, who was winning for the third time in just seven days, overtook her much older rival three fences from the finish and went on to win by six lengths, with Bob Bites Back, ridden by Nick Williams, a distant third.

Williams had been aboard Findlay's Find when it had won at Laleston the previous Saturday and three days later, when winning the ladies' open at Cottlestone, Claire Hart had been in the saddle.

However, the winning rider on this occasion was Richard Burton, who is something of a legend in hunt-racing circles having ridden more than 400 winners.

Earlier, Chesnut Annie's rider Isabel Tompsett had won the members' race on Jason Parfitt's lazy grey Turbulance, who had to be coaxed around by the reigning Welsh champion rider and eventually won by 15 lengths from Rich Nomad.

There was a good finish to the confined race in which former Dudley Cup winner Cottage River, ridden by Jodie Hughes, beat Hollow Ranger, ridden by Ben Poste, by three parts of a length.

Princess De Rome, partnered by Nick

Williams, looked like winning but run down the last fence and finished a further half-a-length away in third.

Jodie, who is making a bold bid for the Welsh ladies championship, said: "I must have been two lengths behind jumping the last and this is my sixth winner of the season."

Jodie's partner, Paul Tolman, took the restricted race on Dr Simon Clarke's 10-year-old Diddle Em which jumped the last fence alongside Spring Haze ridden by Tom David.

Diddle Em, a 12-1 chance, won by two-and-a-half lengths and was winning for the first time in three years.

The biggest cheers heard at a Welsh point-to-point in years went to Paul Sheard, who landed the young horse maiden race on his seven-year-old bay gelding Gouranga Society. Paul (40) from Culverhouse Cross in Cardiff, survived a bad mistake at

the 13th fence when leading the field a merry gallop, but was soon back in the lead.

Strongly challenged in the closing stages by Nick Williams on the favourite Glenskeskin, Paul cheekily stood up in his stirrups just before the finish to win by a neck!

Paul, who is just 5ft 2ins, has only ever ridden one other winner and that was ItsOnlyMe, which won the Welsh Point-To-Point 'Grand National' over four miles at Pentrych back in 2006.

Young Bradley Gibbs, who rides out for Aberthin's Tim Vaughan, recorded his seventh winner of the season when winning the aged horse open maiden on Paul Riddick's nine-year-old bay mare Sheer Brilliance, who scored by seven lengths from Peterman ridden by David Prichard.

**BRIAN LEE**

## Jockey seriously injured in race

**A FEMALE jockey with strong connections to the Vale and Bridgend county borough has been seriously injured in a fall at a race in England.**

The leading amateur rider Isabel Tompsett, who many hunt-racing enthusiasts in the Vale will associate with Beth Roberts's prolific winner Chesnut Annie, is – at the time of writing – on a life support machine at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Isabel (28) sustained serious head injuries after falling from Leopold in a hurdle race at Fakenham on Sunday, stopped breathing twice and had to be resuscitated by paramedics.

She was taken to Norwich and Norfolk Hospital but later transferred to Cambridge.

Only 24 hours earlier, the reigning Welsh champion point-to-point rider had been successful on

the grey Turbulance at the Gelligaer Farmers Hunt Steeplechases at Lower Machen.

She later finished second on Chesnut Annie to Findlay's Find in the mixed open race (see article above).

Isabel, an equine vet of high regard, is well known to Vale trainers Evan Williams and Tim Vaughan and has won many point-to-point races in the Vale.

She has ridden winners on the flat, over hurdles and over jumps and won the 2009-10 female jump jockeys' title.

On Tuesday (May 24) it was reported that doctors were confident that Isabel had no serious neck or spinal injuries, and they had removed her neck brace.

A statement said that she was still heavily sedated, and that no change was expected in the next two or three days.

**BRIAN LEE**



# Bryn Hafren girls say farewell as they move on to higher education and the real world!

YEAR-11 pupils at Bryn Hafren school, Barry, took a break from studying for exams to come to their leaving ceremony.

They were addressed by head-teacher Phil Whitcombe, and certificates were handed out in a ceremony in the school hall.

Afterwards, the girls got together in form groups, or with friends, for the more recent tradition of signing shirts, as a memento of their time together in Bryn Hafren.

*Pictures  
by  
IAN DIXON*



## Cadets learn about times past in Barry town

Photographs by **Paul Jones**  
[www.valeevents.co.uk](http://www.valeevents.co.uk)

CADETS from Penarth, Barry and Llandaff North detachments, took part in an inter-generational learning day at Barry Library, to coincide with the launch of Dr Jonathan Hicks' book, *The Dead of Mametz*.

Also at the event was Mrs Eileen Younghusband, providing a presentation on her book *Not An Ordinary Life*, and members of the local World War II re-enactment society.

Cadets gave presentations on field cooking, basha building and living comfortably in the field, and first aid skills. They also met and talked to a lot of members of the public.

To find out more about the Army Cadet Force, call 07779 693555, or visit [www.armycadets.com](http://www.armycadets.com).





# Ring trees and tooth fairy pouches show pupils' enterprise!



**THE YEAR-6 pupils and their teacher, Sue Thomas, at All Saints Church in Wales Primary School were very busy during the spring term working on their Mini Enterprise project.**

Among the many handmade products they produced were jewellery, ring trees, tooth fairy pouches, pen holders and adorable pebble pets. They also made fancy cakes and sweets.

They held their fair last Friday after school and were inundated with eager customers who couldn't wait to bag a bargain. The youngsters thoroughly enjoyed their hands-on lesson in the world of commerce and their efforts raised a whopping £285 for Cancer Research.

Headteacher Richard Ware was impressed by the children's enthusiasm and keen business sense. Last week, Helen, a representative from the Marie Curie Foundation, was invited along to the school assembly to receive the cheque.

She warmly thanked Mrs Thomas and the pupils of Year 6 for a fantastic effort in raising money for this excellent cause.

NM



## Hammer Strength Gym provides a lift for local weight trainers

**EXTRA muscle has been added to leisure facilities in Barry – with the opening of the new Hammer Strength Gym at Holm View Leisure**

a spokesperson said. "The new gym is perfect for anyone who is serious about their weight training, and is the latest in a series of exciting improvements that are being made in local communities across the town as part of the multi-million pound Barry regeneration fund.

"£100,000 was awarded by the Welsh Government for the Hammer Strength project, and the

new gym is a huge improvement on the old Hammer Strength Gym, which was located just a mile away at the Colcot Sports Centre."

An area of the gym is dedicated to boxing training, with several punch bags and space for pad work, while a qualified member of staff will always be on duty to help with training advice.

Both the male and female changing rooms have been completely refurbished while the CCTV system has also been upgraded.

Speaking at the official opening of the new Hammer Strength Gym, the Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism,

Coun Anthony Ernest, said: "I am delighted to see how an under-utilised area of Holm View Leisure Centre has been transformed into another high quality leisure facility for the town.

"I fully appreciate that a number of customers were concerned that the council was taking a much-loved facility away from the Colcot Sports Centre, but the feedback so far since the move has been extremely positive.

"I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to make this project happen in such a short period of time."

## St. Aubin's, Cowbridge Two Nurseries in One

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

## St Aubin's Nursery brings its childcare ethos to Cowbridge

**I**T is not every day that a business opens in Cowbridge that will offer 50 new jobs, but that is the case with the opening of St Aubin's Nursery.

The former medical centre in the Old Hall Gardens has been transformed into a modern nursery with a range of facilities for children from six weeks to school age, and the setting is a perfect fit as far as the owner of St Aubin's, Sue Evans, is concerned.

The nursery is open now, although the grand official opening will not take place until July, and Sue Evans spoke to The GEM about what prompted her to get involved in the care of young children.

She said: "The over-riding thing is that I love being with children. They are so honest, so funny and so direct – and I love to watch them develop."

Sue's first job in childcare was in a Welsh language play group, and she became a trustee of the Llandough Special Needs Children Centre – an experience that only increased her desire to work with chil-



dren.

Shortly after, in 1990, she discovered that a French woman in Penarth was selling her nursery. However, that lady was particular and, rather than just talking cash, Sue found herself being interviewed to see if the lady felt she was a suitable person to take over!

Luckily, Sue passed the test and bought St Aubin's Nursery in Penarth. Sue said: "She explained that St Aubin was the patron saint of children, so I decided to keep the

name!"

The name brought good fortune too, because the venture was a success, and Sue retained the name every time she looked at a new venture.

Expansion has been steady, giving each nursery several years to bed down and establish its own atmosphere before contemplating a new one.

At the same time, Sue kept up to date with developments in the field and is now the vice-chair of the National Day Nursery Association.

However, Sue lived in Cowbridge for several years and always wanted to open in the town, and she jumped at the chance when the medical centre became available.

The result is two nurseries in one – a Welsh language one, and an English equivalent – with dedicated staff for each. The two groups have their own areas, although there are certain play areas that are shared.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 23)



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## St. Aubin's, Cowbridge Two Nurseries in One



ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

### 'WE GO TO GREAT LENGTHS TO HELP THE PARENTS'



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22)  
Apart from the regular staff, a series of specialists are employed. A GP can advise staff or concerned parents, and the team can also draw on the talents of teachers, a nurse, play workers, a drama coach, and even sign language teachers.

When St Aubin's bought the medical centre, it came with six parking spaces outside in the car park alongside the town walls. Sue also became the owner of a sizeable chunk of the Old Hall gardens.

She told The GEM: "One of the reasons that I was so delighted to get this site was that I had

been so impressed by the Cowbridge Physic Garden. When I discovered that the Old Hall Gardens were being revamped, I spoke to the Charter Trust to try and work with them.

"They have been so helpful and they are really doing a fantastic job."

In fact, when the official opening is held on Saturday, July 16, there will be celebrity guests and stalls in aid of charity, with the money raised shared between the Charter Trust and the Alzheimer's Society.

The nearby gardens fit in perfectly with Sue's philosophy, which is to let children enjoy the open air whenever



possible. The nursery operates the Foundation Phase education system, learning through play, often outdoors, as advocated by the Welsh Assembly, but Sue's nurseries have been doing this for a lot longer.

All her nurseries are attached to parks, and her staff are used to letting children explore their surroundings while keeping a careful eye on them.

Sue added: "I have a fantastic group of

people working for me, and everyone becomes part of the St Aubin family. We bend over backwards to help parents because we believe we should support the family unit.

"I think you have to look after your parents too, because some of them travel a long way to bring their children here.

"We send them off with a coffee and a croissant because they work hard all day too!"

PHILIP IRWIN

**ABOVE:**  
A helping hand from one of the staff.



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# LITTER PICKS AND 'GREEN' HOUSE BOTH FEATURE IN GLADSTONE'S ECO-WEEK

**CHILDREN and staff at Gladstone Primary School spent the last week of term undertaking eco activities during the 'Gladstone Eco-Week'.**

The idea of the eco-week came from the school eco-committee which meets regularly. Gladstone has been an eco-school for more than six years and as a result is constantly doing its best to 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'.

The week started with a whole school assembly led by the eco-committee. Children were encouraged to walk to school and a competition was held to see which class had the highest percentage of children walking each day.

Throughout the week, classes carried out litter picks – children undertook eco-themed maths and literacy lessons, and each year group studied a different global issue.

Each class also created at least one garment made out of recycled materi-

als and these were modelled during a whole school fashion show at the end of the week.

As a home task, children made accessories from recycled products.

Outside, they helped to create a mural made out of plastic bottle tops with Mrs Crow, while a new greenhouse was constructed out of recycled plastic bottles with the help of the eco-committee and PC Newman, Mr Graham and the Full Monty Café.

After school, the gardening club filled and planted new Mediterranean beds, using rainwater from the water butts and school-produced compost. "The eco-week further embeds the positive ethos towards the environment throughout Gladstone and the community."

"We are really proud of the way the children show just how fundamental the whole sustainability curriculum is part of their approach to everyday life," said Kirsty Lindley, eco-committee chairperson. **HA**



## Pupils celebrate royal wedding with street party



**THE playground was awash with bunting at Gladstone Primary School when the children and staff held a traditional street party.**

Throughout the morning, the children took part in different activities relating to the royal family and ended the day with the whole school sitting outside on the front playground eating, drinking and celebrating in style.

As a home task, children were invited to design a royal wedding or Easter hat and the children proudly displayed their final creations. Easter egg prizes given to the winners were kindly donated by Morrisons.

Mrs Newman, headteacher, recalled: "We had a marvellous day, celebrating the royal wedding in true traditional style. Well done everybody!" **HA**



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## BARRY ATHLETIC CRICKET ROUND-UP

# Openers Nathan and Lee in 300-plus record stand!

**BARRY Athletic CC celebrated another hat-trick of victories in what has proven to be a great start for the Stags in the Glamorgan and Monmouthshire Cricket League.**

First, **Nathan Baker's Barry Athletic 1st XI entertained league strugglers, Llantwit Fardre, as the Stags looked to establish themselves as a promotion contender for the second year in a row.**

Baker won the toss and chose to bat first on what was a rock hard surface with a short layer of live grass, offering something for the bowlers.

The Stags began constructively, with the new ball offering some difficulty for batsmen, Lee Morgan and Nathan Baker. However, after they got settled into their stride, there was no stopping them.

Runs came flowing from the bat from all angles. The visitors had no answer as both passed the 50-mark in quick fashion and with just 35 overs played in the innings, both had amassed centuries and didn't look like stopping. Everything went right for the Stags until the 42nd over, when Baker went after one ball too many and was brilliantly caught on the boundary, for a massive 181 runs from just 132 balls; a

magnificent effort from the Barry skipper.

Morgan batted through, right until the decision came from the Stags to declare after 44 overs, finishing on 121 not out.

History was made at the Barry Oval as the highest partnership was smashed to pieces, with the first wicket partnership making a massive 317 runs. Barry finished on 333-1 declared from 44 overs.

After tea, the Stags rushed out to finish the job and they got off to the perfect start by removing Lewis for just four, after being trapped lbw by Hellyar.

It was a successful day for the Stag bowling attack as wickets came tumbling down. Griffitt (1-24) and Hellyar (4-54) tore through the top order and with some fine fielding, Barry kept the pressure firmly on the visitors.

A partnership of 47 brought some respectability for Fardre, however, Gee (1-43) and Usswald (3-9) wrapped up the lower end of the order and Barry proved to be much too strong, on the day, winning by 194 runs and claiming their first maximum 20 points of the season.

**SECOND XI MAINTAIN GOOD EARLY SEASON FORM**  
**SIMON PHILLIPS' Barry Athletic 2nd XI travelled along the M4,**



**Lee Morgan (left) 121 not out and Nathan Baker (right) 181 celebrate their record partnership of 317.**

**to face a possible 'banana-skin' in Rogestone Welfare.**

With the pitch not looking at its best and conditions favouring the bowlers, Phillips won the toss and had no hesitation in bowling first.

The Stags looked in dominant form as the 'Welfare' failed to cope with the strength in depth. Wickets became a regular thing as bowlers, Dafydd Frost (four) and Callum Twomey (two) ripped through the batting order and looked very confident in their deliveries. An excellent partnership of swing and seam could prove to be a successful one as they continue to develop.

Rogestone didn't look like responding and the score could have looked a lot worse for the home side. A combination of excellent bowling and fielding, including two high-quality catches from Anthony Esposti, brought the innings to a premature end and Rogestone were bowled out for a miserable 106.

The Stags continued their dominance into the second innings, having performed brilliantly with the ball, and looked very impressive in their run chase.

Despite the early loss of in-form Craig Brock for a duck, the Stags never looked like losing. Batsmen, Andrew Buckland (51 not out) and Martin Baker (45 not out) put together a marvellous partnership of 107 to bring home the victory for the Stags and another march towards a possible promotion push for Division One cricket, next season.

**STAGS MAKE IT 'SIX OF THE BEST'**  
**Andy Ellis celebrated the club's sixth victory in a row (over two weekends) with a comprehensive 8-wicket win over Aberdare.**

With a selection headache prior to the match, the Stags were able to field a few more familiar faces and give a debut to Steve Provis.

The conditions proved to be very difficult to bat, with gale force winds causing some disruption to the proceedings.

Therefore, it no surprise when Ellis won the toss and chose to have a bowl first.

The Stags began rampantly, as wickets began

to tumble in the opening overs as the visitors failed to cope with the Stags.

Bowlers, Nathan Baker (2-17) and Jake Griffitt (1-20) looked in good touch as Aberdare failed to cope with the Stags' bowling.

The wickets were pretty spread about with Sam Walsh (1-5), Steve Provis (1-8), Mitchell Facey (1-11) and Callum Twomey (1-24) all getting in the act. Only Jarrod Davies (42) showed some sign of resistance on what was a sorry looking scorecard.

Aberdare failed to show any promise towards the end of the innings as they were restricted to just 124-8 in 40 overs.

The Stags showed some signs of a mini collapse with chances on offer for the visitors to get a positive start in the second innings. However, even after the early dismissals of Jake Griffitt (15) and Mitchell Facey (1), the Stags looked odds-on favourites to secure the victory with time to spare.

Batsmen, Steve Provis (54 not out) and Ashley Baker (43 not out), shared a 105-run partnership to secure the victory – a victory in which boundaries were hit at regular intervals and put the Stags in cruise control. Barry won the match with only 16.3 overs bowled, closing on 127-2.

**UNDER-9 MINI-FESTIVAL WASHED OUT**

**BILLY Usswald's Barry Athletic under-9s were left disappointed with the news that the mini-tournament at St Fagans, was washed out by the overnight downpours.**

They travel to Vale CC next Sunday, where they will face Vale, Creigiau and Whitchurch Heath.

A final reminder that the start of season party will take place this Saturday at the Barry Oval.

The party schedule contains live coverage of the Champions league final, and live disco.

Action will start at 7.45pm, after the match between Barry Athletic 2nd XI and Welsh Asians CC has concluded.

AB

## The Vale CC Seconds end Ebbw Vale's unbeaten run

**VALE 242-4 (45 overs); Ebbw Vale 123-4 (45 overs) – won by 119 runs.**

Ebbw Vale won the toss and asked Vale to bat first. The Vale batting was opened by Gareth Andrews and former first team captain Carl Brooks.

For the second week in a row, an opening stand of 50 was put on the board before Brooks was clean bowled for 21 with the score on 52.

This brought the skipper Mark Francis to the wicket to join Andrews and these two added 36 before Andrews was clean bowled for a well made 45.

Chris Pike came to the crease but soon departed to a controversial lbw decision, leaving Vale 90-3 after 20 overs.

The skipper called for a runner, which allowed Pike to re-enter the fray. This appeared to improve the running and Neil Raikes, batting in his favoured No 5 position, continued his golden run of form as he steadily built a second successive 50.

For a second week in a row, Raikes and Francis (with help from Pike) put a 90-run partnership together before the skipper's painful stay at the wicket was ended, with another dubious lbw decision, for 53 including one six and four fours.

Geraint Parry, returning after injury, joined Raikes and added 58 to take the Vale score to 242-4 after 45 overs. Raikes, for a second week in a row, put a splendid innings together, mixing patience with raw power and finished 75 not out including one six and eight fours, with Parry looking good on his first outing of the season 16 not out.

Ebbw Vale set off in pursuit of the Vale total but found runs hard to come by off Vale's mean opening attack of Jack Davies and Chris Pike.

Davies, bowling five maidens in his first six overs and Pike, four maidens in his first six overs, ensured the visitors were never going to chase down Vale's total. Pike struck the first

blow, knocking over the openers' stumps and that was soon followed by a second wicket as Shaun Boga-Lake took a marvellous juggling catch at mid-on.

Ebbw Vale's batsmen dug in and their difficulties in scoring runs continued as they only managed to post 40 off the first 26 overs.

Paul Gilbert, Oliver Pike and Shaun Boga-Lake all bowled good economical spells but still the wickets would not come. In a bid to get a further breakthrough and rattle through the overs as the skies darkened, the skipper gave Brooks' off spin a rare outing.

The experiment proved successful as he trapped the other opener, who had made a painstakingly slow 32, lbw leaving the visitors 75-3 in the 34th over.

The skipper returned to his opening bowlers to see if they could gain some further bowling points. Davies, bowling with genuine pace from the pavilion end, was desperately unlucky not to pick up a hatful of wickets but with the last ball of the innings, induced an edge to second slip which was well held by Chris Pike to gain Vale an extra bowling bonus point.

Ebbw Vale finished well short of the target on 123-4 after their 45 overs.

The Vale bowling figures were Jack Davies (11-4-31-1), Chris Pike (12-6-22-2), Paul Gilbert (7-2-14-0), Oliver Pike (4-0-9-0), Shaun Boga-Lake (5-0-17-0) and Carl Brooks (6-0-23-1).

RA

## Waste of trip for Cadoxton bowls team

**Cadoxton v Barry Plastics – Munro Cup**  
**CADOXTON travelled to Sully for the Munro Cup match against Barry Plastics, and returned with no points.**

Graham Brown's rink came closest to success when they lead throughout until a three on the final end gave the opponents, skipped by Eric Roberts, success by one shot.

Howard Craven's rink won three of the first four ends, before conceding a five on the next. They trailed 13-6 after 12 ends, then prevented the rink skipped by Bob Matthews from scoring for three ends, but lost the last four.

Les Cundliffe managed just six singles and a two against Bob Vadden's rink who scored steadily throughout.

Alan Carpenter and Lee Romans were the skips on the other rinks, which went in the visitors' favour during the first half of the game.

A six against stopped the run and boosted the home side to win the remaining ends except for two of them.

R Doble, P Ellis, I Robertson, G Brown 15-16 I Morgan, W Hogg, C Camber, E Roberts.

L Tanner, R Knight, L Davies, L Cundliffe 8-17 R Robbins, B Buckingham, M Phillips, R Vadden.

D Collard, R Cole, A Turner, A Carpenter 12-21 D Austin, R Clay, G Trickett, L Romans, S Clements, K Tanner, M Curtis, H Craven 9-20 D Dyer, G Prance, M Morgan, B Matthews.

**Final score: 44-72.**

**Cadoxton v Maesteg Welfare – Carruthers**

**CADOXTON had a very close encounter with Maesteg Welfare in this 'Carruthers' match, with two winning and two losing rinks.**

Kevin Chedgoy had the most pleasing result, with his lead Glen Solomon performing excellently, thus enabling a 10-0 lead to be opened.

Two fours followed this shortly to increase the advantage to 24-6. The remaining two ends brought success for the opposition, by scoring four shots.

Don Kuhnell had a very tense struggle with his opposition, during which the scores were level on five instances throughout the game.

On the fifth occasion, the home side scored a two to level the score at 13-13, and were holding a one-shot advantage on the next end before the opposing skip, while attempting to move the shot with his last bowl, clipped his own bowl out to concede three shots.

Further advantage was then obtained by winning the next two, only to fail

with a single against on the last.

Graham Brown skipped against probably the best rink on the visitors team, made up of well-established experienced players, and struggled for most of the game, to make any impression.

In a surprising start to the game on Howard Craven's rink, an eight against on the fifth end cancelled the euphoria of a 9-0 advantage and thus enhanced the performance of the opposition, while subduing the home team.

Although these two rinks lost, they played their part in the overall success of the game, when both scored a four on the final end to give Cadoxton a seven-shot success.

P Ellis, G Davies, I Robertson, G Brown 14-22 D Lloyd, J Coke, M Trigg, P Davies.

B Knight, M Matthews, J Crout, H Craven 22-26 B Hood, R Pickard, J Summers, A Thomas.

T Bishop, L Davies, J Davies, D Kuhnell 19-14 D James, D Jones, E Jones, D Rees.

G Solomon, W Vaughan, L Cundliffe, K Chedgoy 24-10 D John, L Sparrow, M Hopkins, G Evans.

**Final score: 79-72.**  
**Cadoxton 'A' v Llantwit Major 'A' – SVL**

**CADOXTON 'A' ended their recent good form when they travelled to Llantwit Major and were comprehensively defeated, on all rinks.**

The rink skipped by Mike Curtis trailed 5-0 after three ends, but a five on the seventh gave them an 8-7 lead.

However, they failed to score on the next six ends, which left them 10 shots down. An improvement over the remainder of the match reduced the deficit to five.

Roy Harding's four obtained a good advantage when a five took the score to 10-4, but this was overtaken over the following three ends and the home side continued to score for the rest of the match.

Derek Brook's rink never recovered from a 14-0 score-line after just four ends.

John Stewart was in contention for most of the game on his rink until seven shots were scored against one over the final five ends.

G Powell, J Maidment, I Dunbar, J Stewart 14-21 R Gray, M Jones, K Williams, E Sparks.

D Collard, S Clarke, R Cole, D Brook 13-33 E Lamb, M Mason, P Clarke, A Harvey.

K Tanner, D Tuck, A Turner, R Harding 17-25 T Wilkins, I K Alexander, R Harding, M Adams.

J Stacey, S Pycroft, G Garland, M Curtis 18-23 W Evans, K Morgan, P Twomey, E Hacker.

**Final score: 97-45.**

DK

## Llantwit cup run is halted by Millwood

**LLANTWIT MAJOR were at home for the A Cup game against Millwood.**

In conditions worse than last Saturday, a strong, cold gusting wind made bowling very difficult. However, Millwood adapted to the conditions to win by 99-74.

Arthur Harvey's rink, E Lamb, M Mason and Phill Clarke, was the only rink to win after taking command at the outset after 10 ends to lead 19-7. Millwood started to improve but Llantwit stuck to the task and won 26-21.

Eric Hacker's rink, R French, K Morgan, P Twomey, despite a valiant effort, couldn't hold Millwood and went down 15-21.

Mike Adams' rink, A Wilkins, K Alexander, R Harding, had a hard game. Millwood led from the start and despite giving it their all, lost by 12 shots.

Captain Richard Gray's rink put up a good show. At the 10th end, they were leading by two, but Millwood started to improve and the final result was

15-27.

A tough game for everyone, and I suspect that everyone was glad to get off the green.

Rink scores: A Harvey 26-21; E Hacker 15-21; M Adams 18-30; R Gray 15-27.

**The A Team bounce back!**  
**LLANTWIT A were at home to Cadoxton A last Saturday for the fourth round of the cup.**

What a difference from the previous Saturday, when Llantwit were hammered by Millwood.

The entire team played extremely well, winning on all rinks, beating Cadoxton by 40 shots.

Arthur Harvey's rink, E Lamb, M Mason and Phill Clarke won 33-13.

E Sparke's rink, R Gray, M Jones and Ken Williams won 21-14.

M Adams' rink, A Wilkins, K Alexander and roy Harding won 21-14.

Eric Hacker's rink, W Evans, K Morgan and P Twomey won 23-18.

A real shot in the arm after the previous Saturday's debacle. Overall score: 102-62.

## Female footballers wanted

**DINAS POWYS Football Club is continuing to promote girls football in the community and will be entering a new under-10s team into the South Wales girls league for the 2011/12 season.**

The club is looking for players aged 7-10, of all abilities, who want to either try out a new activity or want to be part of a fun team sport.

Matches take place on Sunday mornings and training will take place on a weekly basis.

For more information please contact Luke Williams on 07832 273688 or email lukes-blues@sky.com.

LW

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# The day Llancarfan celebrated two weddings and a landmark event!

by IAN FELL

IT'S probably ancient history now – but looking back, it's not every day that a major headline event captures Llancarfan's imagination.

However, when a lad called William Wales gets married by a chap from Swansea, to tunes from Anglesey, and television commentary by a guy from Bridgend – then it's time to reach for the bunting.

"Sori – no bunting," said the Tesco Culverhouse Cross assistant. "We think they sent it all to England."

However, ever resourceful, the Llancarfan royal wedding street party team (working from the village pub) had their secret sources of bunting. This was duly strung out across the Fox & Hounds car-park, tables summoned from village hall and households, and all enclosed in fencing last seen corralling sheep at the Vale Agricultural Show.

Thus was created an arena of celebratory anticipation – and all before 11 o'clock, when people rushed home to watch the royal wedding on television.

To be fair, there was competition. Charlotte Williams and Scott John had booked St. Cadoc's in which to be made man and wife well before the royals announced their plans.

So William had to make do with Westminster Abbey, while Llancarfan's own wedding went ahead in parallel, under the direction of the Ven. Peggy Jackson and the watchful eye of St George.

Once the telly had confirmed with a balcony kiss the wedded bliss of William and Kate, the citizens of Llancarfan re-emerged in force.

Snapshots of the occasion captured the village en fete, with well over 100 villagers feasting on picnic goodies. Future historians will have to work out who was who – there were times when only the removal of sun-glasses, wigs and ra-ra skirts revealed the identity of fellow villagers!

Come the evening, with the car-park re-transformed to its usual pebble beach, festivities continued for the many who enjoyed a Fox & Hounds barbecue.

It was a triumph of organisation for Sue Millard, Julie Potter, Claire Thomas, Steve & Lorna Vink, and a wonderful lesson in village conviviality for young and old alike



## Cheeky boy!



CHEEKY.

THE Bridgend Cat Adoption Centre would like GEM readers to meet a real Cheeky chappie!

Cheeky is 14 years old but doesn't look or act it. He has recently had an operation but is now ready and waiting for a new home.

This time of year there are lots of kittens available, so some of the older cats do get overlooked, please don't let Cheeky be one of them!

## Just William!



Meet Dog of the Week William!

THIS WEEK: William is a seven-year-old lurcher. He is a lovely boy, who just loves fuss and cuddles!

He would like to be the only dog in the home and he loves his food, and is very easy to train – he will be a delight with the right owner.

If you would like to offer William a home, visit the Dogs Trust at Court Colman, Pen-y-Fai, Bridgend, or call on 01656 725219. You can see William and some of his friends at [www.dogstrust.org.uk](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk)



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## Garden project receives a helping hand

PLANS to regenerate a garden area at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School received a welcome boost from the summer term got under way.

Although designs and ideas are already in place for the area, which has been a part of the school since its inception, progress was being held up by the presence of a 30-foot conifer that dominated the site.

A school spokeswoman said: "Being completely enclosed at the heart of the school, removing the tree was far from a simple prospect, but the construction of a new cre-

matorium close to the facility provided an unexpected opportunity to do so.

"The kind assistance of Britannia – which provided both manpower and a number of large dumper trucks – finally ensured that the garden would be cleared of the remains, and is now ready for redevelopment."

"We are working on a major project in the vicinity of Bryn Hafren, but were surprised to receive a visit from a member of staff asking for help with a project of their own," said Behrooz Sedghi, part of the management of the crematorium construction on the site of the former South Wales Driving Range. "Britannia has a proud



reputation of getting involved with the local community, so we were only too happy to help out."

The regeneration of the garden area is being led by Bryn Hafren's Welsh Baccalaureate co-

ordinator, Natasha Jennings, who can see multiple benefits to the project.

She said: "The girls pursuing the qualification are required to complete a community participation module, and

helping to redevelop the garden provides several opportunities to do that.

"We have some exciting plans for the area, which will hopefully bring an oriental atmosphere to Bryn Hafren, but the tree was simply

LEFT: All that remains after the demolition!

too big to allow us to do anything meaningful.

"While we had the means to cut it down, removing it from the site was a different matter, so we are extremely grateful to Behrooz and his team for their help."

"The school has already obtained items for the garden, thanks to the generous support of the community and companies around Barry and, with a little hard work, looks forward to completing the transformation from overgrown wasteland to zen haven by the end of the autumn term."



# Out and About with The GEM

## JOHNNY DEPP SHINES IN WHAT IS AN OTHERWISE DULL PIRATE ADVENTURE

**F**OR a film that breezed in like a breath of fresh air, there was something of a smell of dead fish by the time the third instalment of the *Pirates of the Caribbean* franchise set sail in 2007.

What had been exciting became cumbersome as the film became more concerned with the intricacies of storytelling, as opposed to creating thrills and excitement.

However, the financial side of things was more than rosy, leading to a predictable fourth outing hinted at the end of the third part.

This time round, the film, entitled *On Stranger Tides*, follows Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) and Barbossa (Geoffrey Rush) on their quest for the fountain of youth – a quest that is threatened by the infamous Blackbeard (Ian McShane) and his daughter Angelica (Penelope Cruz), who have their own history

with Sparrow...

Anyone expecting that this fourth instalment in the *Pirates*... franchise will take a radical departure from what has gone before will certainly feel let down, as *On Stranger Tides* is very much business as usual.

Sadly, the same applies to the over-wrought narratives of the latter instalments and a general underwhelming feeling that means it is a case of 'same old' for a franchise looking as though its sea legs have been left on dry land. Only the most soured of people would deny the entertainment value of Johnny Depp as Jack Sparrow, and certainly the actor again delivers, the roguish character giving Depp plenty to play with.

However, even the most generous viewer would say that fourth time around the actor is starting to tread water ever so slightly, his performance made all the more entertaining by the lack of quality elsewhere.

While Geoffrey Rush offers a decent turn as Sparrow's nemesis

### SCREEN TALK



by GARETH JAMIESON

Captain Barbossa (mainly because his character has actually developed as the films have gone on), Penelope Cruz fails to bring the requisite passion as Angelica – her chemistry with Depp falling flat, while Ian McShane is given little to work with as Blackbeard, managing to wring out a hint of dastardly nature, but little else.

Perhaps the finger pointing and plank-walking should be saved for Ted Elliott and Terry Rossio, the screenwriters who have been with franchise since day one.

The first film was dripping with derring-do and spectacle, but the latter two films found themselves weighed under by an unwieldy narrative.

While they really misstep with the introduction of two characters (Sam Claflin's Philip and Astrid-Berges-Frisbey's Syrena) whose subplot is dull in the extreme, there is so much double-crossing and narrative confusion going on that you spend most of your time wondering just who is doing what.

Coupled with Rob Marshall's direction, it does very little that Gore Verbinski's time in the director's chair didn't, and the end result is a film that while a step-up from the dull and dense sequels, is still a disappointing outing.

That even Johnny

Depp is starting to look tired and ordinary as Captain Jack is a worrying sign, and if *On Stranger Tides* is to be the tipping point for more additions to the franchise, there is some serious work to be done.

**VERDICT** – A poor outing from a franchise that seemingly offered so much, *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* is a weak effort all round, with even Johnny Depp's effervescent Captain Jack Sparrow slipping into the ensemble.

While it retains a level of spectacle that delivers the odd thrill, it very rarely soars higher, making this a disappointing return for these *Pirates*. Poor.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Pirates of the Caribbean* franchise, *The Mask of Zorro*.

## Blood donors

**THE Welsh Blood Service (Gwasanaeth Gwaed Cymru) will be holding donor sessions in the area next month as follows:**

**JUNE 10:** Mobile donation Clinic, Tesco Stores, Castle Street, Maesteg – 10.45am-1.45pm and 3.15pm-6.30pm.

To attend this session, it is advisable to make an appointment as these donors will take priority. Please call 01443 622193 or e-mail donor.appointments@wales.nhs.uk to make one.

**JUNE 14:** Bedwas Hall, Memorial Hall, Gladstone Road, Barry – 10am-6pm.

To view a comprehensive list of all the blood donation sessions, please visit [www.welshblood.or.uk](http://www.welshblood.or.uk) or call 0800 252266.

## Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

**THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D671.**

● The rollover, which now stands at £3,000, was not won this week.

● £2,000: 525021.

● £10: 274199.

342026; 718520; 642869; 785739; 546307; 695061; 337848; 745724; 349128; 496124; 132591; 433631; 610079; 284046; 376921; 282293; 340675; 664139; 832429.

● £5: 513529; 625463; 871174; 951426; 608613; 143576; 459729; 378880; 800214; 598606; 403066; 728596; 700672; 299562; 287743; 283441; 515316; 752617; 457929; 786428; 223453; 820734; 976792; 617510; 625412; 563618; 621418; 181616; 171239; 262250; 585095; 766822; 834075; 315163; 851886; 171499; 431188; 329920; 100250; 906229; 394694; 521192; 729702; 178366; 592804; 255377;

629406; 117661; 112642; 523143; 877426; 126082; 369934; 588586; 584926; 195295; 515574; 688634; 867859; 358406.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

### GOLDEN BALL

**BRITISH HEART Foundation Cymru will be holding a 50th anniversary Golden Ball at Cardiff Castle on Saturday, June 25.**

Contact fundraising manager Sharon Own on 02920 382408 or email [owens@bhf.org.uk](mailto:owens@bhf.org.uk).

### CAPITAL HYPNOTHERAPY

Motivation, change & habit modification

68 HIGH STREET, BARRY CF62 7DU • 01446 730700 [www.hypnotist.uk.com](http://www.hypnotist.uk.com)

## Cottrell Park hosts Armed Forces Day golf competition

**Cottrell Park will be hosting their second Armed Forces Day golf competition on Wednesday, June 22, in support of the National Armed Forces Day.**

The golf competition is open to all current serving Armed Forces Personnel, Reserve Forces, Veterans, Cadets and personnel working within the MOD.

The day will feature an individual competi-

tion, sponsored by the Royal British Legion and a team competition consisting of teams of four players.

Both Cottrell Park golf courses (Mackintosh and Button) will be used concurrently for the competition with tee off times commencing at 12 noon.

The cost is £25 per person and will include coffee and bacon roll on arrival, 18 holes of golf and to finish the day off a hog roast buffet and prizes for the lucky winners.

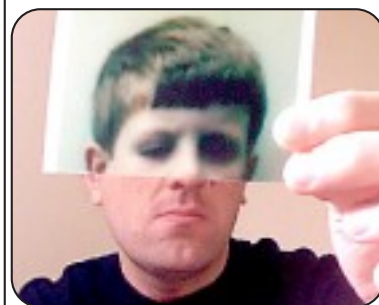
The main organiser of the competition, Dave Morris, who is a retired

army officer, said: "It is a real privilege to be involved in Armed Forces Day. I believe it is extremely important that we have a day to recognise, celebrate, and honour all our servicemen and women who serve and have served our country."

Anyone interested in taking part can log onto [www.armedforcesday-wales.co.uk](http://www.armedforcesday-wales.co.uk) and follow the links to download the application form or contact Dave Morris on 01446772043 or email: [daveptmorrisc@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:daveptmorrisc@tiscali.co.uk).

CP

## Making faces exhibition



One of Christian John Olsen's 'Masks' series.

**ARTIST Christian John Olsen's third Travellers Gallery one-man exhibition – 'Making Faces', is open from May 31 to July 7, mornings, Mondays to Fridays.**

He explores two themes: Masks, looking at inherited family characteristics and Pretty Ugly, exploring the impact of the media on body self image.

For more information contact Mind in the Vale (Registered Charity no. 1066411) on 01446 730792, or visit [www.mindinthevale.org.uk](http://www.mindinthevale.org.uk) and [www.voga.org.uk](http://www.voga.org.uk).

## Broad Street & Boverton GARDEN CENTRES

Barry 01446 720333 Boverton 01449 792105

**OPEN BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 10am - 4pm**

### BEDDING PLANTS

Local grower  
£2.70 a pack  
Fresh plants in every other day

### ALPINES, HERBACEOUS AND HERBS

**£1.40 each**  
or 5 for **£6.50**

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### FLOWERING HANGING BASKETS from £8.99

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Many Varieties  
99p each

### 80 Ltr ORGANIC MULTI PURPOSE COMPOST

£3.75 each or 3 for **£10**

### SEED POTATOES

To Clear - 50p a kilo

### GROWBAGS

£1.25 each

### LARGE SELECTION OF SHRUBS

– Looking Good!

### BARK 80 Ltrs

£4.50 each  
or 3 for **£12**

Sand, Chippings, Stonedust, Scalpings, all-in, Topsoil, Bark, Cotswold Stone, Gold Coast, Slate – **Sold by the Ton**

Stepping Stones **£4 each** or 3 for **£10**

Bags of Sand, Chippings, Stone Dust (25 kilos) **£1.60 a bag**

Gold Coast and Cotswold 25 kilos **£3.05 a bag**

Pebbles, Cobbles and Rockery Stone – Prices Vary

Membrane Ground Cover (20 metre rolls) **£8.99**

**CALOR GAS AGENTS**

<div> <b>Alun Cairns MP</b>  your voice for the Vale  eich llois i'r Fro  <a href="http://www.aluncairns.co.uk">www.aluncairns.co.uk</a> </div>		
Election Anniversary Community Meetings		
26th May	Wenwae Community Centre	7.30 – 8.30pm
2nd June	St Brides Village Hall	8.00 – 9.00pm
3rd June	Llesser Hall, Cowbridge	5.30 – 6.45pm
	Llanfrow Village Hall	7.15 – 8.15pm
11th June	Community Hall, Peterstone-super-Ely	10.00 – 11.30am
	St Nicholas Village Hall	12.00 – 1.00pm
17th June	Lee Hall, Dinas Powys	5.30 – 7.00pm
	Llanfair Primary School	7.30 – 8.30pm
1st July	The Gathering Place, St Athan	5.00 – 6.30pm
2nd July	Llantrorian Hall, Llantrwit Major	11.00 – 12.30pm
8th July	Rhoose Community Centre	6.00 – 7.30pm
	Barley Mow, Graig Penllyn	8.00 – 9.00pm
19th July	Pendragon Village Hall	6.00 – 7.00pm
	The Star Inn, Treos	8.00 – 9.00pm
20th July	The Blacksmiths Arms, Llanmaes	6.30 – 7.30pm
	The Sycamore, Colweston	8.00 – 9.00pm
21st July	Oriel Room, Memorial Hall, Barry	6.30 – 8.00pm



# Out and About with The GEM

## ENJOY AN EVENING WITH MOZART IN ST HILARY CHURCH



The performers who will be celebrating the genius of Mozart at St Hilary Church.

**ON Sunday, June 12** at 7pm, St Hilary Church choir are joining senior students from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama to celebrate the genius of Mozart.

In a concert of inspired choral and instrumental music, Rebecca Sands, Grace Wain, Eleias Roberts and Christian Jenkins, star students from the college's opera course, will be soloists in the magni-

ficent Coronation Mass, and Jennifer Wright on the French horn has chosen the most famous of Mozart's concertos for her instrument, the fourth.

The concert, to be held at St Hilary Church, also includes perennial favourites Ave Verum Corpus, Rondo a la Turca, and the Musical Joke.

Tickets can be obtained in Cowbridge from Sorrento, WG Davies, David Barnes Dry Cleaners and members of the choir.

## Solo piece dedicated to Porthceri

**LOCAL musician and sound artist Chris Young performs his solo piece 'AcouChristo' in the Porthceri Centre on May 27-28.**

The piece, especially written for the Porthceri Centre space, will begin at 8.30pm to allow the gathering darkness to give the lighting its full effect.

Entry is free but donations to the Porthceri Centre are welcome.

A spokesman for the Porthceri Centre group said: "We decided to go ahead with the performance in the centre, even though the building has been sold."

"We want to assure the community that we're going ahead with our plans for an arts and Welsh-language centre and are bidding for the URC Windsor Road building."

"Chris has been associated with the group and we were thrilled that he has written something so special to us as part of his Masters final showcase - he's a very talented guy!"

## PACT meetings

**BUTTRILLS PACT**, June 6 in the Philip John Community Room, Barry Library at 6.30pm.

**ST BRIDES PACT**, St Brides Church Hall, June 8 at 6pm.

**YSTRADOWN Coffee & Chat**, the White Lion public house, June 7 at 11.30am.

**PLYMOUTH PACT**, Brockhill Way Community Centre, June 1 at 7pm.

**SULLY PACT**, the Williams Room of the Old School, South Road, June 13 at 7pm.

## What's on and where?

### Rhoose meeting

**RHOOSE** and District History Society will meet at 6.30pm this Friday (May 27) in Rhoose Community Hall, preceded by the AGM, when paid-up members will vote for a new committee to include president, chairman, secretary, treasurer, programme secretary, events secretary and archivist.

This month's speaker will be Mr Ron Powell, who will give a talk at 7.30pm, entitled 'The Charge of the Light Brigade'.

Entrance to the meeting will be £1 for adults, which will include a raffle ticket. Visitors welcome. Membership is £4 per annum.

### Joshua night

**ON Saturday (May 28)** Laura Owens and Hannah Yarr, pupils at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive, are hosting a charity night to raise funds towards the 'Oz Experience', a project run by the Joshua Foundation, to provide young people with the opportunity to change the lives of children with terminal cancer.

It will be held at the Café Continental, Barry Island. Music will be provided by local band The Anderson Connection, and, for one night only, a special variety act by Kevin Owens and Haydn Stait - not to be missed.

Anyone interested in donating anything to the raffle or bidding on the auction should contact Neil on 07828 714845.

### Parachute drop

**THE** final countdown has begun to a sponsored Teddy Bear parachute jump at St Cadoc's Church, Cadoxton, Barry, on Sunday (May 29) at 2pm.

There will be a prize for the best dressed child's and adult's bear.

Proceeds will go to the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas child shoe-box appeal.

### Beach clean

**BARRY-BASED** environmental group 'Friends of Barry Beaches' will meet for a beach clean at the Watchtower Bay on May 30 at 3pm (by the Watchtower roundabout) for one hour cleaning the beach.

At the April beach clean on Knap Beach, eight bags of recycling and five bags of rubbish were collected by 17 volunteers.

### Thrift shop

**THE Thrift Shop, Woodpecker Square, St Athan**, will be closed for the half-term school holidays from 1.30pm on May 30 to 10am on June 6.

### Charity flower arranging night

**COWBRIDGE** and District Flower Arrangers Club's next demonstration is by Beryl Griffiths.

It takes place in Cowbridge Town Hall on Wednesday, June 1, at 7.30pm.

Doors open from 6.30pm to 7.15pm.

Tickets (£6) are available at the door, and there is a raffle of arrangements in aid of Ty Hafan.

### CAOS scoop!

**LLANTWIT Major** is set to meet the West End after Cowbridge Amateur Operatic Society secured the rights to perform a lost gem by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

The musical show tells the story of Dr Barnardo and his work to rescue children living on the streets.

Curtain up is on June 1-4 at 7.30pm (Saturday matinee, 2.30pm) in Llantwit Major Comprehensive School.

Contact [www.cowbridgeaos.org.uk](http://www.cowbridgeaos.org.uk) or telephone 01446 773169.

### Valeways walks

**ON Sunday, June 5**, at 2.30pm, 'From St Tydfil's to Agatha Christie' starting from St Tydfil's Church, Llyswoyney (map ref SS 962 741).

On Monday, June 6 at 7pm, parks and cliffs, starting from All Saints Church, Park Road, Barry.

Thursday, June 9 at 1.30pm, Cwm George mystery trail, starting from St Peter's Church, Mill Road, Dinas Powys; 7pm-9.15pm, inland from Llantwit Major (extended walk, flat and easy), starting from Llantwit Major Railway Station car park.

### Age Concern coffee morning

**AGE Concern's Western Vale Good Neighbour Scheme** is holding its annual coffee morning on June 9 at the Llantonian Hall, Boverton Road, Llantwit Major from 10am-12pm.

Admission is £1.50 and includes coffee, tea and biscuits - plus top-ups, there will be a variety of stalls, from home-made cakes, bric-a-brac, plants and a raffle. Proceeds go towards the Good Neighbour Scheme, based at 1 Commercial Street, Llantwit Major.

Telephone 01446 795549/795632 for further information.

### Legion benefit

**THE Mayor of the Vale, Coun John Clifford**, is hosting a garden party on June 10 to mark the Royal British Legion's 90th birthday in the marquee at Dyffryn Gardens from 2pm-5pm.

Tickets are £7.50 each, which will include afternoon tea and entry to the gardens. Proceeds to the British Legion. Contact the Mayor's office on 01446 709301.

Tell us what's on and where in your area - email [gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk](mailto:gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk)

**ST DONATS ARTS CENTRE**

Friday 3rd June, 7.30pm  
**PIAF ~ the songs**  
Eve Lloiseau sings the songs of Edith Piaf with Eddy Jay, accordion and Fiona Barrow, fiddle

**COMPETITION**  
in conjunction with **Glamorgan GEM**

**3 lucky readers to win a pair of FREE TICKETS**  
(valued at £32 per pair)

**JUST ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTION CORRECTLY:**  
**WHAT NATIONALITY WAS EDITH PIAF?**  
A) German B) Dutch C) French

Please e-mail your answer to [enquiries@stdonats.com](mailto:enquiries@stdonats.com) no later than Tuesday 31st May

Box Office: 01446 799100  
Minicore: 01446 799102  
[enquiries@stdonats.com](mailto:enquiries@stdonats.com)

On-line booking:  
[www.stdonats.com](http://www.stdonats.com)  
St Donats Arts Centre, St Donats Castle, Vale of Glamorgan CF11 1TF

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**FRIDAY & SATURDAY EVENINGS**  
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LUNCHTIMES & EVENINGS  
CHILDREN'S MENU AVAILABLE

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND**  
Friday 27th May  
**Live Entertainment**  
Saturday 28th May  
**The Sunsets - Rock N Roll**  
Band plus Bingo  
Sunday 29th May  
**Jeff Alvey** Award winning  
Comedian followed by Disco

**Sunday Roast £6.95**  
in the Ocean Lounge Bar  
Choice of meats, Seasonal Vegetables,  
Home-made desserts from only £1.99  
Booking Advisable

**CAR BOOT SALE**  
**EVERY SUNDAY from 2pm and**  
To find us - click directions @  
[www.firejoust.com](http://www.firejoust.com)  
Ample Parking - Coaches Welcome  
**Tel. 01446 710362/711538**

**Margam Country Park**

Children's Fairytale Land • Margam Railway  
Adventure Playground • Farm Trail with Pets Corner  
Margam Deer Herd • Countryside with Great Views  
Eighteenth Century Orangery and Tudor Gothic Mansion  
Open 10am to 5pm daily • Free Entry • Car Parking £5.00 per day

**Monday, 30th May Bank Holiday, Pirates and Princesses Family Fun Day**  
Shiver me timbers! Join in with the pirates and princesses. Pirate shows, princess storytelling and meet our very own Captain Jack Sparrow. Don't forget to come in your best pirate and princess costumes. A great family day out. Adults £5.50, children and OAPs £4.50, family (2+3) £20.  
Full programme of half term family activities, check the park web pages for a full list:  
Saturday 4th-Sunday 5th June - Margam Kite Festival and Margam Model Boat Club Show  
The Kite Festival of Wales - Bring your kite along and join in the fun! Kites of all shapes and sizes.

**FREE Family Activity days for the school summer holidays**  
[www.margamcountrypark.co.uk](http://www.margamcountrypark.co.uk)  
The fun never stops at Margam Country Park!



## Situations Vacant

### Sensory Garden Co-ordinator

**Location:** Drop In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Barry.  
**Salary:** £15,000 per annum  
**Hours:** 30 hours per week

#### Brief description of post:

To co-ordinate and support work of community volunteers engaged in Sensory Garden activities inclusive of any training needs and to collaborate with partner agencies in the promotion of the garden as a resource for learning and environmental awareness.

To provide support to the Sensory Garden Management Group in the development of the overall aims and objectives of the garden.

Closing date: **9th June 2011**  
 Interview date: To be advised

For an informal chat and/or application pack please contact:

**Eileen Moore**

**Drop In Centre 01446 403549**

Please note: This post may be subject to Criminal Records Bureau check

Please return completed application forms to the Sensory Garden Management Group at the Drop In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Barry. CF63 4JY



### Cydylnudd Gardd Synhwyraidd

**Leoliad:** Drop In Centre, 3, Dunlin Court Barry.  
**Cyflog:** £15,000 y flwyddyn  
**Oriau:** 30 awr yr wythnos

#### Disgrifiad byr o'r swydd:

I cydyllu a cefnogi gwrifodolwyr cymunedol sydd i'w wneud a'r ardd. Yn cynnwys anghenion hyfforddiant, delio a asiantaethau mewn partneriaeth i hybu'r ardd fel adnodd i ddysgu ag i godi ymwybyddiaeth yr amgylchedd.

I roi cymorth i Grwp Rheoli Gardd Synhwyraidd er mwyn i ddatblygu i gyfarfod yr amcanion

Dyddiad Cau: **9th Mehefin 2011**  
 Dyddiad Cyfnewid: i'w drefnu

Am sgwrs anffurfiol a/neu ffurflen gais cysylltwch a: **Eileen Moore**

**Drop In Centre 01446 403549**

Nodwch: Fe all yr apwyntiad yma ddibynnu ar archwiliad Criminal Records Bureau.

Furflenni gais i'w ddychwelyd i: Grwp Rheoli Gardd Synhwyraidd, Drop In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Barry, CF63 4JY



### Centre Manager

**Location:** Castleland Community Centre, Belvedere Crescent, Barry.

**Office Base:** 3 Dunlin Court, Barry

**Salary:** £17,000 per annum

**Hours:** 37 hours per week

#### Brief description of post:

To undertake day to day management of the community centre inclusive of line management to centre staff. To work with relevant partner agencies in support of activities for the benefit of centre users

Closing date: **9th June 2011**  
 Interview date: To be advised

For an informal chat and/or application pack please contact:

**Eileen Moore**

**Drop In Centre**

**01446 403549**

Please note: This post may be subject to Criminal Records Bureau check

Please return completed application forms to Castleland Community Association C/O Drop In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Barry, CF63 4JY



### Rheolwr Ganolfan

**Leoliad:** Canolfan Cymunedol Castleland, Belvedere Crescent, Barry.

**Safle Swyddfa:** 3 Dunlin Court, Barry

**Cyflog:** £17,000 y flwyddyn

**Oriau:** 37 awr yr wythnos

#### Disgrifiad byr o'r swydd:

I rheoli'r ganolfan gymunedol o dydd i ddydd, yn cynnwys rheoli gweithwyr, gweithio mewn partneriaeth efo asiantaethau perthnasol eraill er mwyn lles y ganolfan a'i defnyddwyr.

Dyddiad Cau: **9th Mehefin 2011**

Dyddiad Cyfnewid: i'w drefnu

Am sgwrs anffurfiol a/neu ffurflen gais cysylltwch a: **Eileen Moore**

**Cadeirydd**

**01446.403549**

Nodwch: Fe all yr apwyntiad yma ddibynnu ar archwiliad Criminal Records Bureau

Furflenni gais i'w ddychwelyd i: Castleland Community Association C/O Drop In Centre, 3 Dunlin Court, Barry, CF63 4JY



## Property

### TO LET Barry

**Town Centre**  
 Rooms available in shared house. Starting from £60 per week.  
 DSS accepted.  
**Tel: 07896 013563**

### TO LET Llantwit Major

**Double Room & Single Room**  
 To Let in modern 3 bedroom house. All utilities inc. phone shared, WiFi.  
**Call 07740 187613**

### Public Notice

#### PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern

I, **Sian Thomas George** do hereby give notice that I have applied to the Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the variation of a Premises Licence at Plough & Harrow, Monkash, Cowbridge, CF71 7QQ known as Plough & Harrow Public House.

The application is to vary the licence, change of name and designated premises supervisor and change of opening hours.

Any persons wishing to make representations to this application may do so by writing to the Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU not later than 28 days after the date of this notice.

Representations received after this date will not be considered. A copy of this application can be viewed at the Civic Offices during normal office hours. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

Signed S. Thomas George  
 Date: 24th May, 2011

### TO LET BRIDGEND

**Modern Industrial/Storage/Workshops**  
**Rents from £150 per week**  
**07850 204481**

### TO LET BARRY ISLAND

Luxury two bedroom loft style apartment within easy access of beach and parks. Sea views. Fully furnished, secure parking. Entry phone system. Bond & references required.  
 No DSS - Over 26 only.  
**£525pcm**  
**Tel: 07912 138342**

### Sited Containers in Secure Yard

20ft x 8ft for rent  
 £20 per week,  
 Barry Docks area.  
 Also furnished office at premises £15 per week  
**Tel: 07966 531506**

## Family Notices

### Cecil ENGLAND

The family of the late Cecil England would like to thank the Cowbridge community for their support and messages of sympathy following Cecil's death, at the age of 95, on May 7.

Cecil lived in Cowbridge for almost 50 years and during this time was involved in many community organisations including Rotary, Probud, the Bowling Club, the History Society, the Gardening Club, Friends of Dyffryn and the Physic Garden.

Cecil's contribution to these organisations and the friends he made in Cowbridge enriched his life.

He will be sadly missed.

### HOUSE Beryl Mary

Peacefully on May 17 at The Court Care Home, St Fagans, Beryl, formerly of Portcawl.

Beloved wife of the late Alex, dearly-loved sister of the late Emlyn and Jack Williams of Wenvoe, will be sadly missed by all her family.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Ffnonon. Funeral Wednesday June 1, service and cremation 2.15pm at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend. No flowers by request, donations in lieu if desired to the Stroke Association, c/o Mrs C James, 11 Ffnonon Road, Rhosce CF62 3DZ.



### Avril Rose GARRETT (née Cridland)

Karen and Michael, the daughter and son of Avril Rose Garrett, who passed away on April 24, would like to express our gratitude for the kindness shown to us after the death of our mother.

We have been overwhelmed by the support we have received, messages of condolence and the donations to the Marie Curie hospice in Penarth.

Many who knew her have conveyed to us that she was an honourable and respected lady, who always had a smile on her face and this makes us proud to have called her our mother. Special thanks to the members of Tabernacle, Llanilltud Fawr, who she always referred to as her other family. Tabernacle have always been there with support and sound advice for us.

We are also very grateful to William James and Son, Ffnonon, who arranged the funeral service. Her deep faith in God remained until the end, and she died with dignity. Interment will be at Tabernacle, Llanilltud Fawr.

*Rest in peace, Mam.  
 Diolch o galon i bawb.*

### LOADER Bernard George

On May 22, 2011 at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bernard, loving husband of Carol, much loved father and grandfather, will be sadly missed by all family and friends.

Funeral Service at Holy Cross Church Cowbridge on Wednesday, 1 June 2011 at 11am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to the British Lung Foundation (BLF), 73-75 Goswell Road, London, EC1B 7ER.

## Funeral Directors

### W. A. Brown & Son Funeral Directors

Contactable 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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**Llantwit Major 01446 792489**

Pembroke House,  
 College Street

Est 1946 - 24 hour Service

### W. H. PREENE & SON INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS

PRIVATE CHAPEL OF REST  
 PRE-PAID FUNERAL PLAN AVAILABLE

54 MAIN STREET, CADOXTON  
**Telephone 01446 420520**

Cadoxton Funeral Home

### Reverend William Jenkin FIELD (Bill)

Peacefully at home on May 18, 2011, William, beloved husband of Catherine, much-loved father of Carole and son-in-law Jack, cherished Gramps of Peter and Tracey, Catherine and Alun, also a loved Grampa BO to Spencer, Stephen and Stephanie.

**Bill will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.**

Resting at James Summers and Son, Lavernock Court, Penarth, until the funeral service on May 27, 2011, at All Saints Church, Barry at 10am, followed by interment at Llanccarfan Churchyard. Family flowers only, but donations in lieu if so desired for Marie Curie Cancer Hospice, Penarth c/o the funeral home.

## Birthdays

### Happy 21st Birthday 29th May, 2011 JAMES AUSTIN

Have a nice day!  
 Lots of love,  
 Nanny Mavis and  
 Grampa Fred. XXX



## Thank You

### Tina & Derek Rowlands

would like to thank their children, grandchildren, family and friends for making their Ruby Wedding Anniversary such a happy and memorable occasion.

*Once again, thank you for your cards and presents.*

## Articles For Sale

### Smeg Dishwasher

Free standing, stainless steel, complete with waste. Buyer to collect £100 ono.  
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(20/21)

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# Strong finish to game takes St Richard to the championship

THE boys from St Richard Gwyn year-10 and 11 boys basketball team were recently crowned Welsh National Champions 2011, beating Cwm Rhymini in a thrilling final.

Earlier in the day, St Richard Gwyn beat St Gerard's School, Gwynedd, to progress to the finals. The game was a perfect opportunity to get all the players onto the court, settle any nerves and generally prepare for what would be the boys' toughest test so far.

Cwm Rhymini had a similar result in the other semi final, comfortably beating Mold Alun of Flintshire.

Both teams had never met each other, but knew what to expect. With both teams including Welsh internationals, national league players and solid athletes, the final was always going to be close.

Cwm Rhymini started the brighter, scoring the first points of the match and pressing hard to disrupt the fluency of St Richard Gwyn's offence. Their tactic was clear, they were not going to allow fast break opportunities and they



St Richard Gwyn basketball team

wanted to play at a fast pace.

St Richard Gwyn soon settled though, with baskets coming from Connor Hetherington, David Debono and Jean Claude Deguara. Even with these contributions, Cwm Rhymini held a slender lead of two points at the end of the first quarter.

The second quarter was a similar story, with Cwm Rhymini pressing hard and playing very aggressively, but with experienced players like Niall Griffiths and Pat Frilles on the court, St Richard Gwyn found ways to score and keep them in sight. However, Cwm Rhymini's lead had been stretched to five points.

The third quarter was

a tense affair, with neither side being able to settle and find their free flowing offence. Baskets still continued to go in from Connor Hetherington and David Debono, allowing St Richard Gwyn to close the lead to three points by the end of the third quarter.

The boys of St Richard Gwyn knew the game was going down to the wire, and with the supporters on the edge of their seats, they needed to dig deep. In the fourth quarter the balance started to shift.

Cwm Rhymini began to struggle to score, mainly down to the incredible defence of Jamie Deguara, Jean Claude Deguara, Joe Harland, Pat Frilles and

David Debono.

These five players provided the platform for the team to take the lead, and with two minutes and 10 seconds left in the game, St Richard Gwyn finally gained the lead for the first time.

Further drama would occur with David Debono rolling his ankle in the final few seconds of the game. While everyone took a moment to gather their thoughts, David took to the court to finish off what he started, and that was to captain St Richard Gwyn to the national title.

With the final buzzer going, the team raced onto the court to celebrate a well-deserved victory, winning 22-19.

The boys PE teacher,

# Vale under-11s make it to national semi-final

THE Vale of Glamorgan Schools under-11s rugby team travelled to Broadacre, home of Dunvant RFC, Swansea to compete in the national seven-a-side competition.

Playing in a group of three other teams with 10 minutes per game on decreased size pitches, it was evident any scores were going to be vital in this competition.

They started very well, beating Pontypool by three tries to nil, scored by Bevan Howell, Rhys Bradshaw and Rhyddian Williams, with all 10 squad players getting on and helping the team cause.

The next opponents were Pontypridd who were beaten by one try to nil, scored by Rhyddian Williams with two tacklers on his back.

A close fought match of 1-1 against

Pembroke schools, with a try scored by Bevan Howell, ensured that Vale schools won their group and proceeded to the quarter finals of the Glyn Davies Cup to meet Rhondda schools.

In a close encounter, Vale schools won by two tries to nil, scored by Rhyddian and Rhys.

Cardiff schools were next in the semi final and won by 2-1, with Bevan Howell scoring the Vale try.

The Vale team can be very proud with themselves to have got through to the last four teams in Wales. Well done from all coaches, parents and other supporters.

Vale squad: Joe Williams, Bevan Howell, Rhys Durlucia, Rhyddian Williams, Sam Corkhill, Jake Griffiths, Jac Roberts, Max Cunningham, Rhys Bradshaw, Ioan Lewis.

DW

# Past captains welcomed to Southerndown GC



Mrs Adela Smith (treasurer), Mrs Mary Burke (secretary), captain Gloria Mynott and Mrs Frances Rees of Southerndown Golf Club.

SOUTHERNDOWN Golf Club recently welcomed the Cardiff & Vale Ladies past captains to the spring meeting, where they enjoyed an excellent lunch and a course in wonderful condition.

Mrs Nicola Hughes, who is the immediate past ladies captain of the host club, won the President's Salver, kindly donated by Mrs Joan Collinge.

FR

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• Double-glazing  
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Cert Malin Y Rhos	35	Silver+	11/04/11
St Barucha Court	14	Bronze	22/04/11
Ty Gwenfa	20	Silver	05/07/10
Philippe Freeth Ct	12	Gold+	06/04/11
Westbury Close	67	Gold	31/05/11





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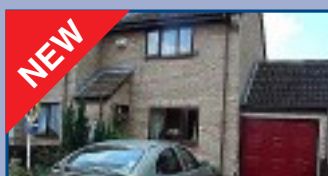
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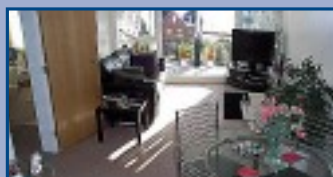
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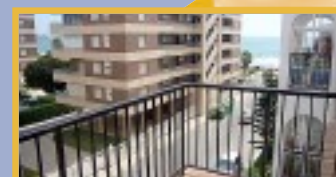
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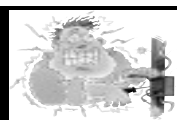
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## Cottrell Park ladies enjoy testing away day



The winning team receive their prizes.

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*The runners-up with their prizes.*  
**THE ladies of Cottrell Park enjoyed their visit to the Bowood Golf Resort, for the Lady Captain's away day on Monday, May 16.**  
 The day remained dry but there was a blustery wind which made the conditions a little difficult. The course was long, with numerous bunkers, which made it extremely challenging.  
 A team Stableford was played, together with an individual Stableford for the Miss Button trophy. The team competition was won by Sara Williams, Tina Morgan and Jayne James, and second were Jeanette Williams, Angela Padfield, and Chris Evans.  
 The Miss Button trophy was won by Sara Williams, and runner-up was Bridget Roberts.  
 Nearest the pin was Sandra Collin and the longest drive (handicap 0-26) was Kay Bradbury, (handicap 27-36) was Jan Cosby.  
 The prizes were presented by Jenny McGlyne (lady captain) ably assisted by Mary Watkins (competition secretary).  
 Jenny McGlyne was thanked for her excellent organisation of the day. The ladies returned home tired but happy after a very enjoyable outing. CB

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## Westend netballers in thrilling draw

WESTEND 2 netball girls played their second game of the Barry Summer League on Thursday night against St Athan.

With both teams eager for an early lead, the first quarter was fast paced, seeing Westend take the first two goals, followed quickly by a goal from St

Athan.

Westend ended the quarter two goals to one ahead.

Both teams settled in the second quarter with some brilliant play from attack and defence on both teams.

Westend managed to stay ahead, ending the second quarter leading by 5

goals to 3.

The third and fourth quarters were played well by both teams, with a few tumbles along the way.

St Athan, hot on the heels of the Westend ladies, finished with a 9-9 draw.

KR

## Dinas Powys pay for not taking chances

IF points were awarded for possession of the ball, Dinas would have won this game comfortably, but they failed to take the numerous scoring chances their possession created and then paid the ultimate price.

The visitors had the first strike on goal, Shane Brewer hitting a free-kick well over the bar and at the other end, Mark Dunford beat his marker but his shot was gathered by Buds keeper Glenn Richards.

On the 15-minute mark, some good inter-passing between Ricki Morgan and Mike Hayward played Dunford in again, but Richards charged off his line to gather the ball just in time.

The hosts were then dealt a blow when right back Rhodri Foote pulled up with a hamstring injury and while Dinas were down to 10 men as his replacement was being readied, Ross Fowler cut in from the left wing to beat Dinas keeper Dave Burnett with a shot from an

**Dinas Powys  
Aberbargoed Buds**  
by Peter King

1  
2

acute angle to open the scoring on 31 minutes.

Dinas were still having the lion's share of possession and a great run and cross from the right wing by Liam Jones (Foote's replacement) was headed just wide by Dunford.

In the last minute of the half, Buds had a corner which Burnett took under pressure and Dinas could consider themselves unlucky to be behind.

The Villagers' manager Marc Cahill brought on Gareth Tedstone for Oli Dalton at the start of the second half and, after some early pressure from the Buds was cleared, Tedstone's pace began to cause the visitors some problems.

However, just as Dinas looked as if their pressure would get them back on terms, Tony Rees burst through the middle at pace for Buds, shaking off all challenges to beat Burnett from 12 yards to give his side a 2-0 lead and they

almost made it 3-0 when Rees fed Fowler, but his shot cannoned off the upright with Burnett beaten.

Dinas kept probing and pulled a goal back when Liam Jones put in a pin-point cross for Dunford to head home from five yards with 20 minutes remaining.

This proved the catalyst for Dinas to step up the work and they had the visitors under pressure for most of the remaining minutes but, despite earning a number of corners and having a shot from Callum McKenzie blocked on the line, the visitors hung on to take all three points.

*Dinas squad: Dave Burnett, Rhodri Foote, Ben Dimond, Callum McKenzie, Danny Street, Jon Carpentier, Ricki Morgan, Steve Provis, Mike Hayward, Mark Dunford, Oli Dalton, Liam Jones, Gareth Tedstone.*

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- 06 56 VOLKSWAGEN Golf 1.4TSI (170ps) FT 5-dr in reflex silver metallic with siemere anthracite interior, climatic air con, front fogs, alloy wheels, cd, only 49,998 miles.....£9,995
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- 05 55 BMW 1 Series 2.0TD 118d Sport 5-Dr Hatchback. In sapphire black with anthracite interior, CD, climate control, alloy wheels, front fogs, only 52,000 miles.....£10,495
- 05 55 RENAULT Megane 1.6Vti 115 privilege 2-dr coupe cabriolet. In red with beige interior, dash mounted multi cd, alloy wheels, climate controls, body coloured bumpers, front fogs, only 49,110 miles.....£5,495
- 05 55 FORD Street Ka 1.6 Luxury 2-dr Convertible. In French blue with ebony black leather interior, air con, cd, quick clear front screen, only 21,720 miles.....£4,995
- 03 53 VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 2.0 2-dr convertible. In aquarius blue with anthracite interior, air con, electronic stability programme traction control system, alloy wheels, only 78,653 miles.....£6,995
- 03 53 HONDA Civic 1.6 Vtec SE Sport 3-Dr Hatchback. In Aqua green, half black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, heated electric mirrors, CD, only 46,400 miles.....£4,495
- 03 53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-dr Convertible. In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles.....£3,995

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- 01 Y Volvo C70 2.4T 2-dr Automatic Coupe. In moonduist with black leather interior, cruise control, climate control, cd, heated seats, only 68,250 miles.....£3,995
- 99 T BMW Z3 1.9 2-dr convertible. In green with green leather interior, alloy wheels, power hood, electric windows, front fogs, only 64,630 miles.....£4,995
- 89 G BMW 3 Series 320i 2.0 2-dr Convertible. In silver with black leather interior, headlamp cleaning system, M-Technic steering wheel, wood effect trim, electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, only 68,140 miles.....£4,995

### FAMILY

- 10 10 FORD S-Max 2.0 TDCi (140ps) titanium 5-dr MPV. In moonduist silver with ebony alcantara leather interior, quick-clear screen, climate control, cruise control, phone prep, sports front bumper, one owner, only 8,290 miles.....£19,995
- 09 59 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi (140) Zetec 5-dr Hatchback in stardust silver with ebony interior, bluetooth phone prep, traction control system, air con, quick clear screen, cruise control, only 31,910 miles.....£12,995
- 09 09 FORD Focus 1.8 Titanium 5-dr hatchback. In blue with anthracite interior, DAB radio/cd, cruise control, quick clear screen, reversing sensors, only 28,680 miles.....£9,995
- 09 09 FORD Focus 1.6 Zetec 5-dr hatchback. In panther black with anthracite interior, quick clear screen, privacy glass, air con, only 19,560 miles.....£9,495
- 08 58 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 1.6 HDi Desire 5-dr MPV. In oriental blue with black interior, ISOFIX anchorage point, air con, front electric windows, only 36,740 miles.....£7,995
- 07 57 SEAT Altea XL 1.9 TDI Styalence in metallic ruby red with styalence grey interior, rear parking sensors, cd, climate control, cruise control, aux input, only 49,100 miles.....£8,495
- 07 07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback. In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fogs, alarm, only 15,060 miles.....£6,495
- 06 56 RENAULT Kangoo 1.5 Dci venture 5-dr MPV. In cosmic grey with dark interior, cd, electric windows, privacy glass, air con, only 64,030 miles.....£4,995
- 06 06 AUDI A4 2.0TDi S-line 4-dr saloon in brilliant red with mondial black interior, climate control, body coloured bumpers, radio/cd, service history, only 74,400 miles.....£9,995
- 05 55 CITROEN Xsara Picasso 1.6 Desire 2 5-dr MPV in oriental blue with dark interior, air con, power steering, electric windows, service history, one owner, only 62,000 miles.....£4,995
- 05 55 CHEVROLET Lacetti 1.8 CDX Automatic 4-dr saloon in pearl black with bluish grey leather interior, climate control, cd auto-changer, front fog lights, anti lock brakes, only 64,450 miles.....£3,995
- 04 54 FORD Mondeo Ghia 5-Dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with ebony interior, 6-CD changer, automatic air con, alarm, immobiliser, alloy wheels, only 53,000 miles.....£4,395

### SMALL

- 09 09 FORD Ka 1.2 Zetec 3-dr hatchback. In dive blue with grey interior, air con, quickclear screen, aux input, alloy wheels, cd, only 22,960 miles.....£7,495
- 09 09 CITROEN C1 1.4 HDi VTR 5-dr Hatchback in metallic blue with grey interior, radio/cd, ABS, power steering, elec front windows, £20 a year road tax, only 14,500 miles.....£7,495
- 08 58 CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 SE 5-dr Hatchback. In mighty blue with grey interior, air con, central locking, CD, front electric windows, ISOFIX, only 26,560 miles.....£3,995
- 08 08 FORD KA Studio. In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles.....£3,995
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- 06 06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Campus Sport 3-dr Hatchback in mercury silver with extreme grey interior, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, alloy wheels, only 58,520 miles.....£3,995
- 05 55 TOYOTA Yaris 13 XVVT-i Colour Collection 3-dr hatchback in eclipse black with black/red interior, body coloured bumpers, power steering, alloy wheels, radio/cd, only 65,000 miles.....£4,495
- 05 55 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Expression 3-dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with grey interior, air con, CD, panoramic roof, only 49,600 miles.....£4,495



03 03 BMW 3 Series 3.0 330 Ci Convertible in Topaz Blue with Montana grey leather interior, 6-CD changer, heated seats, automatic air cn, traction control system, only 55,200 miles.....£9,495



05 55 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v Expression 3-dr Hatchback. In platinum silver with grey interior, air con, CD, panoramic roof, only 49,600 miles.....£4,495



06 06 AUDI A4 2.0TDi S-line 4-dr saloon in brilliant red with mondial black interior, climate control, body coloured bumpers, radio/cd, service history, only 74,400 miles.....£9,995



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# GEM sport

## Centurions run riot with a comprehensive win

**SULLY** Centurions played host to Ynysygerwn and ran out winners by a margin of 138 runs.

Ryan Sylvester led the charge with a great century, sharing an opening stand of 88 with Mike O'Shea, who departed for 41, and then adding another 160 with Lloyd Smith, who hit a sweet 53 before being caught by Haswell off the bowling of Ynysygerwn skipper Maggs.

One run later, Ryan's great innings of 124 came to an end, which left Centurions on 248 for 3. Jamie Sylvester hit an unbeaten 33 and Gareth Sullivan continued the runfest with a fine 77 not out to take Centurions to the final total of 361 for 3 at the end of the 50 overs.

The visitors were not disgraced, as they put in a creditable performance in reply, but, with an initial required run rate of more than seven runs an over, they were always chasing the game.

David Eskins, continuing his recent run of form with the ball, picked up 2 for 29. He, along with Mike O'Shea (2 for 26) and Jamie Sylvester (2 for 12) were the pick of the Centurions' attack.

Lloyd Smith, Tom Evison and Liam Woolls, with one wicket each, and a run-out courtesy of Julian Griffiths, completed the wicket taking, as the West Wales side were all out for 223 in the 43rd over. Steve Inward, with 50, was the top scorer for the visitors.

Sully 361 for 3; Ynysygerwn 223 all out. On Sunday, the ECB

National Knockout regional quarter-final was cancelled after Centurions' opponents, Downend CC from Bristol, forfeited the match. The next round will be an all South Wales affair, against either Ynysygerwn or Cardiff.

This Sunday, Centurions face Malpas in the second round of the Welsh Cup at Burnham Avenue.

**Second XI**  
THE Second XI travelled to Ynysygerwn and came away with a narrow victory in a game that ebbed and flowed throughout.

After losing skipper Matt Thomas for a first ball duck, Centurions had Shaz Rehan to thank, as he put on 80 runs with Shaee Ellis (27) and another 50 with Lloyd Bruce (30) before nar-

rowly missing out on his century when he went for 92.

Owain Sullivan hit an unbeaten 20 at the end and Centurions finished on 229 for 8 after the 50 overs. Baker (3 for 48) was the pick of the home bowlers.

In reply, Ynysygerwn looked to be up on the required run rate as Ace (26) Phillips (43) Evans (26) and Atkins, with 42, kept the runs flowing.

However, a couple of wickets for Matthew Thomas and good contributions from Laurence O'Sullivan (3 for 22) and Lloyd Bruce (4 for 44) gave Centurions a victory by 12 runs.

Ynysygerwn 217 all out; Centurions 229 for 8.

**Third XI**  
THE Third XI ran into an unstoppable force at Lisvane in the shape of the opening batsman Salaman, who dispatched the Centurion bowlers to all parts in his innings of 140.

Lisvane reached 341 for 5 at the end of the 45 overs, which was always going to be a hard act to follow.

After tea, David Sylvester reached 55 and Max Pryce got 48 to give Centurions a good start.

Christian Bruce hit 38 not out, but the required run rate was always going to be difficult to achieve.

Although the innings closed on 211, this was for the loss of only five wickets and Sully could consider themselves unfortunate to lose by so many runs.

Lisvane 241/5; Sully 211/5.

**Fourth XI**  
THE Fourths fell to a

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## Dinas grab a hard fought point from trip

**DINAS** could only muster a 12-man squad for the long trip to Newcastle Emlyn because of injuries, suspensions and unavailability, but they had the best possible start to the game taking the lead after just two minutes.

A free kick was awarded just outside the penalty box and Ricki Morgan, alongside Barrie Gunstone, shaped up to take it.

Morgan stepped over the ball and Gunstone slotted it home just inside the upright giving home keeper Keiran Spencer Catlan no chance.

The next real scoring chance also fell to Dinas when good one-touch passing involving Mark Dunford, Morgan and Gunstone, set up Gunstone but the home keeper got down well to save the shot.

At the other end, Dinas keeper Dave Burnett made a superb save at full stretch from Jake Harries on 11 minutes, and it was the west Walesians who were creating more scoring opportunities but their finishing was off target a lot of the time.

Gareth Tedstone was

**Newcastle Emlyn 1 Dinas Powys 1**

making some good runs down the left flank for the visitors and one excellent low cross seemed to get stuck under Gunstone's feet and the chance was cleared.

Emlyn looked certain to level when a ball went over Burnett, but somehow the defence scrambled it clear with several Emlyn players rushing in to get the final touch.

Temperers flared a bit at times after Tedstone was hacked down but managed to run it off after leaving the field for treatment.

The best chance Dinas had to extend their lead again came from a Tedstone cross across the six-yard box which Dunford somehow failed to get a touch on from four yards.

Emlyn finished the half pressing hard, and from a deep free kick Harries headed well at the far post and Owen Thomas miscued when right through on goal.

The second half commenced with Emlyn on the attack and, after coming close a couple of times, they finally levelled when a Thomas shot was parried by

Burnett and Adam Raymond drove home from 6 yards.

The nearest Dinas came to scoring was a Steve Provis header at the far post which looked to be going in, but an outstretched leg cleared off the line.

Both sides did get the ball in the net late in the game but both efforts were ruled offside.

Dunford was then replaced by Joe Briscoe with 10 minutes remaining and the last chance for Dinas in the final minute came from a Gunstone corner, which somehow evaded everyone and ran out of play.

Dinas travel to Treharris Athletic Western this Saturday for their final game of the season, which should be an interesting encounter as the hosts need the points desperately to avoid relegation.

**Dinas squad:** Dave Burnett, Dan Jose, Danny Street, Mike Hayward, Steve Provis, Jon Carpenter, Ricki Morgan, Liam Jones, Mark Dunford, Barrie Gunstone, Gareth Tedstone, Joe Briscoe. **PK**

## Barry Athletic make progress in Shield

**BARRY** Athletic won their third WBA Carruthers Shield qualifier by an impressive 118 shots to 48 against Bridgend Municipal at Barry Island on Saturday.

The Athletic are just one game away from the knockout stages – they complete their group fixtures at Maesteg Welfare on Saturday – but are firm favourites to qualify due to a superior shot difference.

Dean Rees' rink, featuring Jack Beanland, D K Williams and Ben Parrish, proved too strong for the visiting Bridgend and rattled up a 36-8 victory that included a seven on the seventh end.

Chris Blake contributed to the overall 70 shot triumph with a 27-11 score, while Glyn Thomas registered a 28-15 win with two sixes on his scorecard.

Captain Robert Horgan's unchanged young lineup trailed 2-2 after seven ends, but eventually settled and went on to a 27-14 success, collecting 17 shots in eight successive ends.

**Scores v Bridgend Municipal:**  
J Beanland, D K Williams, B Parrish, D Rees 36-8; S McKernan, D Jones, C Wright, R Horgan 27-14; D Snelling, R Cowling, G Whittaker, C Blake

27-11; L Stanley, P Webley, K Harris, G Thomas 28-15.

The Athletic's A team opened their Private Greens Division Two programme with a 79 shots to 68 win at Penarth Rectory Road on Sunday afternoon.

In blustery conditions, the Athletic were winners on three rinks to get the season off to a good start for PG2 captain Paul Clarke.

The Athletic collected 12 points with top rink honours going to skip Bill Summerell (26-16), supported by his No 3, Ivor Stevenson, and in-form front bowlers Clive Phillips and Albert Mintern.

Billy Wright, a consistent skip in the PG2 squad last season, began the new campaign with a 19-12 win in a rink that included Eric Booker, Derek Coombs and Mike Vaughan.

Colin Spillane supplied the other winning rink (18-14) with Don Evans, Paul Clarke and Gary Jones playing their part in Colin's victory.

**Scores v Athletic A:**  
E Booker, D Coombs, M Vaughan, B Wright 19-12; D Evans, P Clarke, G Jones, C Spillane 18-14; J Ball, G Thomas, D Newman, G Humphreys 16-26; C Phillips, A Mintern, I Stevenson, B Summerell 26-16.

CP

## 100 per cent for Dinas bowlers

**DINAS POWYS** bowling club first team continued their impressive start in defence of their WBA Carruthers Shield title with two further wins.

The first was against local rivals Sully on May 14.

Dinas were given a stern test in the early stages but settled quickly and gained a 10 shot advantage by the fifth end.

Good performances across the board, in particular from Nigel Leigh's and Alex Meddins' rinks gave Dinas a 22 shot lead by the 18th end.

The last three ends saw that lead increase to 28 shots, and a

good win for Dinas by 90-62.

Dinas skip scores: G White, A Wedlake, M Clarke, A Meddins – 27-13; A Harvey, A Desrosiers, G Griffiths, N Leigh – 22-10; D Vowles, R Osbourne, M Woodcock, G Williams – 21-20; D Parker, P Marks, R Jones, M Ackland – 20-19.

Then, last Saturday, Dinas hosted Kenfig Hill in the third game of the WBA league stage. This proved to be a much sterner test of the team's spirit.

The early stages were very even with Dinas just edging the game by four shots after five ends.

By end 10 the lead was cut to three and after 15 ends Dinas were just six shots to the good.

At this stage the game could have gone either way, but Dinas applied the pressure over the next three ends, scoring 12 shots to Kenfig's five, extending the lead to 13 shots.

A confident finish across the rinks gave Dinas a final score of 72-55, a solid win by 17 shots.

Dinas skip scores: G White, M Clarke, M Woodcock, A Meddins – 12-16; D Parker, R Osbourne, R Jones, M Ackland – 16-15; A Harvey, G Griffiths, H Meddins, N Leigh – 20-13; D Vowles, A Wedlake, C Todd, G Williams – 24-11.

This Saturday, Dinas go into their final league stage game away to Ely Valley. **AD**

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